CIRCULATION LAST WEEK: 155,000. Sample copies sent free to any address.

TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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A SKETCH.

A builder's yard, a ship upon the ways,
The groan of straining planks, the snap of stays,
The cheering of a crowd: "She moves!"
"She's off!"
And with a sudden rush and splash the great ship
Leaves the wharf.

A storm-swept, foam-tossed sea, a howling gale,
A ship half lost in foam, a rag of sail,
The tolling of a bell, now lost, now clear—
"The shore; the shore!"—she strikes in crashing
Waves to disappear.

A summer's eve, a calm and wailing tide,
A dismal stretch of sand that tries to hide
The bones of some great vessel, prow on high,
Outlined against the sunset's last faint glow
Athwart the sky.
—Julian Hinckley in Outlook.

SIX HOURS A DAY.

Six hours a day the woman spends on food!
Six mortal hours a day,
With fire and water toiling, heat and cold;
Struggling with laws she does not understand
Of chemistry and physics, and the weight
Of poverty and ignorance besides.
Toiling for those she loves, the added strain
Of tense emotion on her humble skill,
The sensitiveness born of love and fear,
Making it harder to do even work.
Toiling without release, no hope ahead
Of varying the task she finds too hard—
This, her career, so closely interknit
With holier demands as deep as life
That to refuse to cook is held the same
As to refuse her wife and motherhood.
Six mortal hours a day to handle food—
Prepare it, serve it, clean it all away—
With allied labors of the stove and tub,
The pan, the dishcloth, and the scrubbing brush.
Developing forever in her brain,
The power to do this work in which she lives;
While the slow finger of Heredity
Writes on the forehead of each living man,
Strive as he may, "His mother was a cook."
—Buffalo Express.

CLEANING HOUSE.

The air vibrates with slow and measured thuds,
And o'er the landscape oft a dust cloud scuds;
For in the back yard gloomily now stands
A man with face begrimed and blistered hands,
Across a rope the parlor carpet hangs,
And on it with a club he feebly bangs;
His eyes are filled with dust, his ears the same,
His arms are sore, his back is stiff and lame,
But often comes this cry across the yard:
"Why don't you beat that carpet real hard?"

His ire is roused; but no retort goes back;
Instead he hits the thing a fiercer crack,
And pounds away with grimness of despair,
While still the dust ascends to spoil the air.
At last, ere darkness hides his task from view
Again he hears the voice, "I'll make it do,
But don't imagine that your work's complete,
For there are ten much worse than that to beat."

The carpet from the rope is meekly tugged
And slowly to the parlor it is lugged;
And then though back and arms and hands are sore
The wearied man must tack it to the floor.
And oft he growls about his aching back,
And oft he hits his thumb instead of tack;
But there he toils until the job is done,
And gets to bed just as the clock strikes one.

And there's a week or more of such distress,
Of anguish that no words can e'er express;
Confusion dire is reigning everywhere,
And soap and whitewash adorn fill the air.
The meals are late, and often fail to please,
And even when in bed there's little ease,
For not an hour of comfort can be gleaned
Until the house has been completely cleaned.

Why wonder, then, that hubbies growl and frown
When everything is thus turned upside down?
The wonder is they don't go far and fast
Until the time for cleaning house has passed.
—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

DO YOU REALLY DESIRE TO LIVE AFTER DEATH?

The American branch of the Society for Psychical Research is undertaking the task of ascertaining whether mankind really desires a future life. It is now sending out a printed blank on which a number of questions are given which the recipient is asked to answer, and affix his or her name and address. The replies are to be tabulated, but the names will not be used publicly in any way.

The circular explains why this novel effort to ascertain public opinion on the subject has been taken up. It has been asserted by writers until it has become a literary tradition that the desire for, and hope of, a future life is well-nigh universal. From this assumption it has been argued that such an universal desire can not be destined to disappointment. The inquiry of the society, then, is to ascertain, if possible, whether mankind does have this general longing for a future existence.

"There is some reason," says the circular which accompanies the blank, "to suppose that this tradition is far from accurately representing the facts, and that these are actually more various and complicated. Moreover, it should not be forgotten that in India this seems to be exactly reversed, and it is assumed that men naturally crave for extinction, or absorption in the absolute."

This is an undoubted fact. Whatever may be the feeling of the mass of the American people on the matter of a future life, the two hundred million followers of Brahma believe in Nirvana—which is the absorption of the individual in the infinite, as a drop of water is received into the bosom of the ocean—and that this is the highest good. This means the destruction of the individuality and practical extinction. Then, too, the devotees of Theosophy in this country hold to the same doctrine.

The reader is asked to note the fact that this inquiry has nothing to do with the religious belief of the people who answer the questions. The Society for Psychical Research cares nothing for that. A man may believe in the reality of the Christian heaven, or of the Mohammedan paradise, filled with enticingly beautiful women, or in neither of these; the query is not what he believes or thinks he believes, but what he would prefer, if he had the decision of the question. It is perfectly conceivable that a devout Catholic, for instance, may have full belief in an eternity of torment for the wicked, yet, if he had the arranging of the matter, would prefer that they were given merciful extinction at death, rather than endless suffering. And so in other cases.

The series of questions proposed is as follows, and it is urged that they be answered quite irrespective of the religious faith or convictions of the person who answers. What is wanted is your personal preferences, sentiments, or desires, without reference to anything else.

1. Would you prefer to live after death or not?

2. (a) If you prefer to live, do you desire a future life, whatever the conditions might be?

(b) If not, what would have to be its character to make the prospect seem tolerable? would you, e. g., be content with a life more or less like your present life?

(c) Can you say what elements in life (if any) are felt by you to call for perpetuity?

(c) Can you state why you feel in this way as regards questions 1 and 2?

4. Do you now feel the question of a future life to be of urgent importance to your mental comfort?

5. Have your feelings on questions 1, 2, and 4, undergone change? If so, when and in what way?

6. Would you like to know for certain about the future life, or would you prefer to leave it to a matter of faith?

The request is also made that if for any reason the person does not wish to answer these questions, he will so state on the blank, and give his reasons for declining to reply. Those reasons will be valuable as throwing light on the general subject of the inquiry.

Many expressions have been recorded by old people against the idea of going through this life in the world a second time were it possible. Do they also have the same feeling against another life in another world? And what sort of a future life would it have to be to make it tolerable to them?

The writer realizes that the inquiries, if answered by a large number of Americans, will give valuable information. Hence he has felt that the matter should be brought to the attention of the readers of The Blade. If you wish to answer, one blank, or a larger number, if you wish them, will be sent you, by addressing a request to the Society for Psychical Research, No. 5 Boylston Place, Boston, Mass. The society is well known in the East, and devotes itself to original investigation along psychical lines. It numbers among its members many leading scientists and divines.

S. S. KNABENSHUE.

SOME ODD ITEMS.

The Roman roads, according to their importance, were from 8 to 30 feet in width.

In very dry atmospheres the durability of wood is almost incredible. Pieces of wood, wooden caskets and wooden articles have been withdrawn from Egyptian catacombs of an antiquity 2,000 or 3,000 years antedating the Christian era.

The Swedish mile is the longest mile in the world. A traveler in Sweden when told that he is only about a mile from a desired point would better hire a horse, for that distance he will have to walk if he chooses in his ignorance to adopt that mode of travel is exactly 11,700 yards.

A table published in the annual report of the department of agriculture, is enlightening as to the amount of money the people of the United States spent in purchasing flowers at retail in 1899—roses $5,000,000, carnations $1,000,000, violets $750,000, chrysanthemums $500,000, miscellaneous, including lilies, $1,250,000. These vast sums found their way into the pockets of nearly 100,000 producers and dealers.

When the sun is pouring down its rays upon the ocean at noonday none of them penetrate to a depth of over 200 feet. Could a diver descend to that depth he would find himself shrouded in darkness as profound as though he were immersed in a sea of ink.

Papa's Consent.

She—Isn't it lovely? Papa consents.

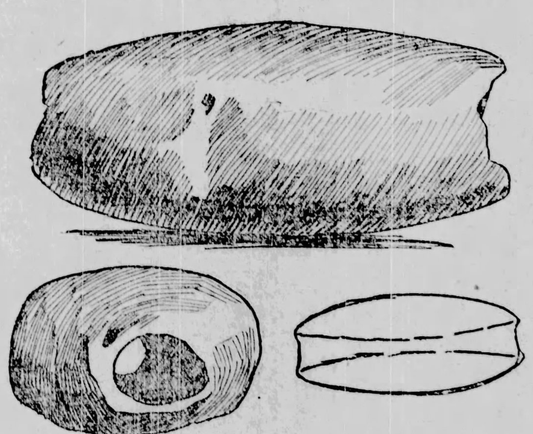
He—Does he, really?

She—Yes. He wanted to know who you were, and I told him you were tape-clerk at Scrimp & Co.'s, and he seemed real pleased.

He—I am delighted.

She—Yes, and he said we could be married just as soon as you were taken into the firm.—New York Weekly.

USED BY INDIANS TO STRAIGHTEN ARROWS



Here is a stone that has given antiquarians food for much thought and speculation. George U. S. Hovey, of White Church, who is the owner of the stone, has sent a photograph of it to the learned scientists of this country and Europe and has received expressions of opinions as varied as the individuals that have written them.

"The stone was presented to me," said Mr. Hovey, "by Harry Diester, who had found it near his home about one and a half miles east of White Church. It was buried about six feet in the ground, and there was no indication of a grave where had been laid the valuables of the people of a lost race and the height of the mound precluded the possibility of its being covered to such a depth by the wash of the soil. The mound had, in all probability, been occupied as a place of residence or work, for a few yards to the south was found one of the ancient workshops. It is, then, my opinion that it was hidden in one of the cellars or caves prior to a hasty evacuation which took place from some cause many years ago.

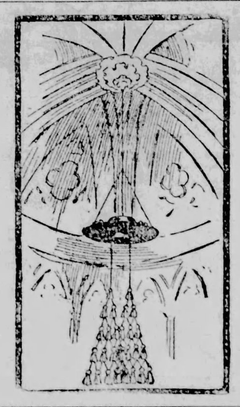
"Now as to its purpose. It was without doubt used as an arrow straightener. In this opinion I am backed by the experts at the the Smithsonian Institution. It was, I may say, more difficult to make a perfect arrow shaft than to make a bow or an arrow point. Captain Bourke, in speaking of the Indians of this country, says that they spent days and weeks on bows and arrow shafts. Dodge says that it took the plains Indians a long time to make a shaft and much labor in the aggregate much more than to make a bow. The shaft must be perfectly round and straight to shoot true. Another writer says that under the most favorable circumstances an Indian could not hope to complete more than a single arrow in one day.

"We, likewise, learn that in places the Indians had a sort of community of interests and so distributed the work as to get the best results; some dressed and tanned the hides, some made bows and arrows, others articles of stone. In this locality they found plenty of material for the bow and arrows, but the fellow that had to straighten the arrow must have gone to the red stone quarries of the North to get his materials.

"A gentleman once said to me that 'he doubted that the purpose of this stone was what I had said it was; for he had seen arrows straightened by the Indians hanging them with weights attached from the limbs of trees. But he had seen only a part of the process. Had he been there earlier he would have seen them taking out the kinks. And had they been fortunate enough to possess one of those stones they would have used it for that purpose. In all probability the method was to place a bundle of arrow shafts in a trough of hot water. Then the arrows were drawn through this straightening stone and were hung up with weights attached. I have tried the process and have produced an arrow shaft that would shoot as true as any that ever was made."

A CARDINAL'S HAT NOW IN NEW YORK

Now that it seems likely that Mgr. Martinelli is to be made a cardinal, the whole question of American cardinals has been raised. It was not until 1875 that the first American cardinal was created. At the present time there is but one in the United States, although the Catholics of America



far outnumber those of countries in Europe which possess large numbers of cardinals. Italy, for instance, is said to have cardinals out of all proportion to the number of the faithful there. It is considered not at all unlikely that in the course of time the United States will have half a dozen or more representatives in the Sacred College.

There is only one church in this country where a curious ancient custom connected with cardinals has been followed. That is the Cathedral of New York, in which the late Cardinal McCloskey was buried. With sharp eyesight you may see a gleam of red high up under the roof above the altar. This is the celebrated red hat. It depends from the stone arch, and has its curious tassels hanging beneath. Some of the great cathedrals of Europe have as many as a dozen of these red hats hanging from the roof, each signifying that beneath the remains of a cardinal are buried.

The red hats are never worn, but are part of the insignia of a prince of the church. They are made of extremely heavy felt and for generations have been made exclusively by a certain family in Rome.

Like Knights of the Garter, the cardinals are required to at all times actually wear some of the insignia of the order. The policy of the papacy has been for years to keep the number of cardinals restricted, thus making the sacred college exclusive and the distinction of receiving the red hat all the more desirable.—New York Herald.

THIS LADY HAS A PET KANGAROO

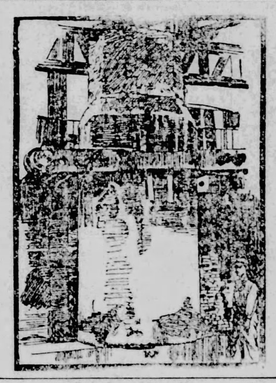
Kangaroos are not common pets, and this one, imported from its native Australia, is the property and cherished companion of Mrs. John Elitch, jr., of Denver, Col., says the New York Herald. This kangaroo is considered to be an exception to the average specimen of his race, because he has demonstrated that he can live and prosper while deprived of the company of other kangaroos. Usually they

will survive as captives only when kept in pairs. His remarkable gentleness and good nature and the comparative ease with which Mrs. Elitch has succeeded in domesticating him, show that kangaroos, dangerous and formidable as they can be on occasion, when encountered in a wild state, are quite susceptible of being tamed.

LARGEST STEEL INGOT HAS JUST BEEN CAST

There was recently cast a monster steel ingot, weighing 99 2-10 gross tons, the largest single piece of steel ever made, which is to form the breech of the new 16-inch coast defense gun now being completed at the Watervliet arsenal, New York. The gigantic steel ingot was cast for the government at the Bethlehem iron works and afterward sent to Watervliet. It is of nickel steel, seventeen feet in length and six feet two inches in diameter. The gun is made up of three parts, on the hoop type, the first section being the steel ingot, which forms the powder chamber. The others are known as the jackets, which are shrunk on to strengthen the gun. This is accomplished by building up a series of cylindrical hoops, one being slid on hot over the other and contracting to a tight fit on growing cold.

The new gun will be the best example of the hoop pattern ever built, and, it is hoped, more effective than any in Europe. It will surpass the famous Krupp gun exhibited at the fair in Chicago, which was the record gun in the world



up to that date. The Krupp weighed only 120 tons, with a range of 14 miles, while the new 16-inch rifle will weigh 126 tons and will hurl a shell 21 miles. The finished gun will be 49 feet in length and will fire a steel projectile weighing 2,350 pounds. On leaving the muzzle of the gun the projectile will travel at the rate of 2,000 feet per second. One thousand pounds of powder are required to send the armor piercing shell at this rate through space. The cost of firing will be $1,000.

The breech mechanism is said to employ many new devices. Electricity will be used in firing the gun and smokeless powder employed. The great gun will, when finished, be sent to Sandy Hook, says the New York Herald.

Didn't Take the Examination.

A slender, rosy-cheeked "young man" of startling beauty applied at the United States recruiting office at Helenwood, Tenn., stating that he wished to be sent to the Philippines to fight for his country, says the Cincinnati Enquirer. Dr. J. R. Newman, the physician in charge, informed the applicant that all recruits were examined. The would-be soldier broke down and said she was a girl. Between her sobs the girl stated that her name was Kate Newman, the daughter of a farmer, and, having read that women served incognito during the Civil War, she wanted to fight.

The Tramps' View.

Resting Robert—See here, Tom, this paper says we have no leisure class in this country, that even our millionaires are hard working men.

Tired Thomas—that man don't know what he is writing about. We are the leisure class.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY'S ITINERARY

This is the schedule of the President's western trip, so far as announced:

Monday, April 29—Leave Washington 10:30 a. m.; short stops at Charlottesville, Lynchburg, Roanoke, Bristol.

Tuesday, April 30—Arrive at Memphis 4:30 p. m.

Wednesday, May 1—Leave Memphis 1:30 a. m.; short stops at Vicksburg and Jackson; arrive at New Orleans at 4:30 p. m., leaving there at 6 p. m. on the following day.

Friday, May 3—Visits to Houston, Prairie View, Hempstead and Austin, Texas.

Saturday, May 4—Arrive at San Antonio 1:15 a. m.; leave at noon.

Sunday, May 5—Arrive at El Paso, attend church, and remain until noon Monday.

Tuesday, May 7—Visits Maricopa and Phoenix.

Wednesday, May 8—Visits Redlands and reaches Los Angeles, to remain until Friday morning.

Friday, May 10—Visits Saugus, San Buenaventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo.

Saturday, May 11—Spends two days at Del Monte.

Monday, May 13—Visits Pavaro, Santa Cruz, Big Trees and arrives at San Jose, to remain until next afternoon.

Tuesday, May 14—Visits Palo Alto and Burlingame, and arrives at San Francisco, to remain until morning of May 20.

Monday, May 20—Visits Stockton, arrives at Sacramento.

Tuesday, May 21—Visits Redding, Sisson and Ashland.

Wednesday, May 22—Visits Salem and arrives at Portland.

Tuesday, May 28—Visits Butte, arrives at Helena.

Wednesday, May 29—Begins tour to Yellowstone Park.

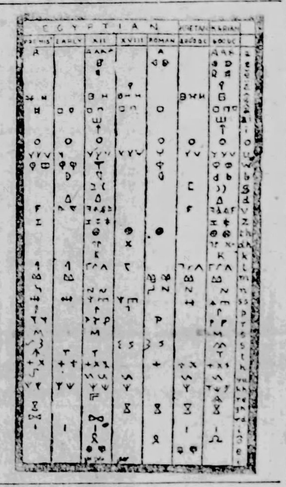
Monday, June 3—Arrives at Salt Lake City.

Thursday, June 6—Arrives at Colorado Springs and begins homeward journey.

OUR ALPHABET.

New Light Shed Upon the Date of Its Origin.

From Crete comes the news of a new and startling find in regard to the alphabet by the well known archaeologist,



Professor Arthur Evans, the director of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, and son of Sir John Evans, the distinguished British scientist, says the New York Herald. Professor Flinders Petrie likewise shares in the honor of the discovery. It is considered by scholars one of the most important archaeological revelations yet made, as it throws fresh light upon the origin and history of the ancient Mycenaean civilization, which had its centre evidently in Crete, and which afterward spread throughout the Grecian Archipelago.

The main feature of the Cretan discovery is the fact that the age of the alphabet is now conclusively turned back from 1,500 to 2,000 years, and proves the existence in the Island of Crete of an indigenous system of writing anterior to the use of the Phoenician alphabet. Between 800 and 900 B. C. is the date commonly assigned to the birth of the alphabet, while 2000 B. C. is the conservative date now given by Professor Evans for the origin of the Cretan alphabet.

Professor Evans declares that in the alphabet and other material unearthed we now have in Crete the first stepping stones of European civilization. The new Western alphabet, as it is now designated, was found while Professor Evans was making excavations at Knossos, the site of what is believed to have been the ancient capital of Crete. In the great palace of King Minos there, a palatial structure covering four acres, having a perfect maze of corridors, chambers and passages, the alphabet was found on a series of clay tablets. They exhibited a highly developed form of letters, in an upright and singularly European aspect. They are supposed by Professor Evans to be fragments of the laws of King Minos as well as palace archives and correspondence referring to stores and treasures. These are now in process of being deciphered, and when finished will undoubtedly yield rich results which will enlarge the bounds of history.

Horse and Horse.

Huckster (incoherently from his wagon)—Oomph-hagerritur — wah-wah-uhwah-wah!

Mrs. Flint (determinedly, from the window)—Don't want it!

Huckster—Don't want what?

Mrs. Flint—Whatever you've got.

Huckster—Ain't got it! Did-dap, BBB!

WOMAN INVENTOR OF THE "PORK AND ——" TABLOID

MRS. LOUIE OSBORNE FERSON AND HER ARMY RATION.

Mrs. Louie Osborne Ferson, who lives with her mother and sister, Dr. Grace Osborne, at the Virginia hotel, this city, says the Chicago Tribune, studied languages at Vassar, and took honors in philosophy at Wellesley. There she invented an army ration, made of pork and beans. The ration is baked into a thin, dark-colored biscuit, four inches long and two inches wide. It is seasoned to taste, and is declared to be as palatable as it is nourishing. Lieutenant Evelyn B. Baldwin, director of the Baldwin-Zeigler polar expedition, and himself an inventor of condensed foods, has ordered 50,000 pounds of the new ration for his arctic trip. Mrs. Ferson will go to Washington next week to consult with the army department on a proposition to supply the food to the troops. Nearly all of the stock-yards packing-houses have made offers to put up the ration, but Mrs. Ferson intends to retain full ownership of her idea, and is even considering the construction of a factory for producing the article in large quantities. Armour & Co. are putting up the Baldwin consignment. Mrs. Ferson became interested in food problems through the work of her sister, Dr. Grace Osborne, who is a professor of hygiene in the Woman's Medical college. The two women worked out the relative values of all kinds of nutritive substances, and pork and beans were found to hold first place. The results are the results.

New York Building--Pan-American Exposition

The New York state building is to be a permanent edifice on the Buffalo Pan-American exposition grounds. The material of which it is being constructed is white marble, and the style of architecture is that of a Doric temple. At the close of the exposition this magnificent structure will become the property of the Buffalo Historical society. It will cost upwards of $170,000—the state contributing $100,000 of the $300,000 appropriated by the legislature, and the Historical society and the city of Buffalo contributing the balance.

WASHINGTON RELICS MADE INTO CUFF BUTTONS

A pair of pearl and gold cuff buttons which in the form of waistcoat buttons were owned by George Washington and worn by him upon the occasion of his inauguration as President and also at his marriage to Martha Dandridge Custis are the valued possession of Prof. Leonidas Polk Wheat, of Virginia, now living in Washington. These modest but greatly cherished relics of Washington are among the few personal belongings of General Washington that have not been purchased or otherwise obtained by the government.

Professor Wheat is a member of one of the oldest families in Clark county, Va., where resides a colony of descendants of the Washington family. The buttons were presented to Professor Wheat by Henry Lewellyn Dangerfield Lewis, great-great-nephew of General Washington.

Mr. Lewis was Prof. Wheat's closest friend and neighbor from 1875 until the time of the former's death, several years ago. It was when Mr. Lewis was arranging for the transfer to the United States government of something like forty thousand dollars' worth of Washington relics, which had been purchased by special act of Congress, that Prof. Wheat came into possession of the buttons. During the process of packing Mr. Lewis, with characteristic generosity, invited his neighbor to select from the collection some souvenir. Prof. Wheat selected two buttons from Washington's waistcoat and had them made into cuff buttons.

Prof. Wheat obtained from Mr. Lewis and his wife a written guarantee that

the buttons had been the property of George Washington and had been worn by him on several state occasions, notably at his inauguration as the first President of the United States, and also at the wedding.

The buttons are of unique design, and in diameter about the size of silver half dollar. Evidence of their authenticity is engraved on the reverse side of the buttons, and reads as follows: "Leo. P. W. from H. L. D. L. Property of George Washington."—New York Herald.

Hoped for the Best.

John Fox, jr., in his study of the Southern mountaineer in the Scribner's, relates that a travelling evangelist, Mr. Barnes, once stopped at a mountain tavern and told the story of the crucifixion.

When he was quite through an old woman who had listened in absorbed silence, asked:

"Stranger, you say that that happened a long while ago?"

"Yes," said Mr. Barnes, "almost two thousand years ago."

"And they treated him that way when he'd come down for nuthin' on earth but to save 'em?"

"Yes."

The old woman was crying softly, and she put out her hand and laid it on his knee.

"Well, stranger," she said, "let's hope that hit ain't so."

How to Live Long.

"Scientists say that a man would live longer if he walked on all fours, as he used to do."

"Of course; other men would lock him up in a cage and take care of him."—Chicago Record-Herald.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

"This is my son Frederick, Mr. Fosdick," said Mr. Glanders, proudly, introducing his 5-year-old boy to his caller.

"Well, Frederick," said the caller, "do you obey your mamma?"

"Yes, sir," replied Frederick, promptly, "and so does papa."—Tit-Bits.

"Ah," said the beautiful woman, "you were a missionary once, I believe? Did you ever meet a cannibal?"

"No," he replied, "the cannibals always caught up with me from behind."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Towne—The doctors have finally agreed upon the cause of Jones' illness.

Browne—They've held another consultation, eh?

Towne—No; a postmortem.—Philadelphia Press.

I saw a sight that filled with awe
My soul and made me quite a-quiver;
'Twas something strange, I swear I saw
A shad roe up the river.
—Philadelphia Press.

Parson Johnson—I will even de——

Deacon Jackson (drowsily)—I'll stay! Gimme fo' kards!

Parson Johnson—De meetin' wif prayer fo' de salvation of Brudder Jackson.—Judge.

The Surgeon—Miss Jinkins, you may bring a sling. This man's arm is pretty badly fractured.

The Patient—An', miss, ax ye place, put more phiskey than wather in it.—Judge.

"All that I want," said Mr. O'Tool, "is peace. And, by Jabers, I'll have that, if I have to fight every man and woman in the parish."—Tit-Bits.

The wife (during a lull in their quarrel-some existence)—I have just finished reading an article on the subject, "Does Hell Exist?" There seems to be a great diversity of opinion. What is your belief?

The husband—It is not meet to express one's convictions on that theme before everybody, but—(with the approval of his conscience)—between you and me I believe it does.—Judge.

"Do you appreciate music?"

"Sometimes," answered the young man with wide ears. "The other evening I went to hear a big chorus, and I dozed off and thought the home team was making home runs that drove the bleachers crazy."—Washington Star.

Tammany Voter—Shure, sor, ut hasn't snowed but twoice this winter.

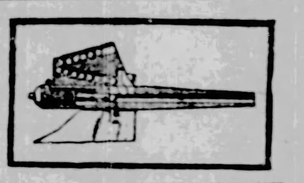
Tammany Boss—But I am not to blame for that, my man. The weather bureau is in the hands of the McKinley administration.—Judge.

RAPID FIRE TOY CANNONS THE LATEST

Toys, in order to sell, must keep up with the times—which means that such playthings must reproduce in a manner the serious and practical ideas of the day. For, after all, children are only men and women in miniature, and the things they do for amusement always imitate the more serious actions of the grownups.

A generation ago the little ones were perfectly satisfied with cannon that discharged a single projectile at a time—perhaps a dried pea. But, as time has the art of war has evolved the rapid fire gun, the youngsters demand something after the same pattern with which to knock down the serried files of their toy soldiers.

Responding to this requirement, a Baltimore man, Charles T. Henn, has just patented a rapid fire toy cannon which is provided with a magazine that drops a series of projectiles into the bore of the weapon, and discharges them as fast as a tiny crank can be turned. Thus a veritable storm of dried peas or lead shot may be delivered. The continuous fire suffices to demoralize even the best disciplined body of leaden troops in painted uniforms.—New York Herald.



Unreasonable Request.

Unceasingly the prayer of man went up,
Backward, turn backward, O Time, in thy flight!
Make me a boy again, just for to-night!

Father Time wheeled his scythe impatiently.

"And if I should," muttered he, "they'd say I was making monkeys of them!"—Detroit Journal.

The Acme of Comfort.

Husband—Don't forget to wake me at 7 o'clock, as usual, to-morrow morning.

Wife—Why, you don't have to go to the office. It's a holiday.

Husband—I know; but wake me at 7. I want to have the satisfaction of rolling over and going to sleep again.—Philadelphia Press.

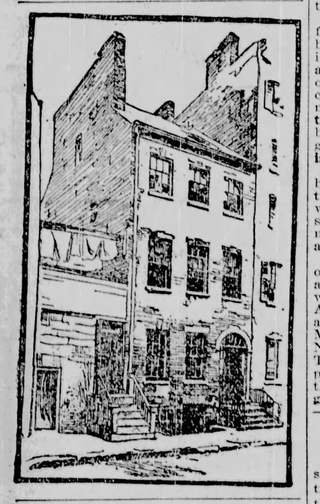
CASTLE GARDEN.

Brief History of This Famous Old New York Place.

Castle Garden was used as a place of amusement from 1824 to 1855. At first a fort called Castle Clinton and erected in 1807, it was ceded by the government to the city of New York in 1822 and in 1824 was leased to private parties. A large stage and seating accommodations for six thousand persons were installed, and the interior was decorated handsomely. The entertainments given consisted of band concerts and fireworks. The Garden was considered one of the most beautiful resorts of its kind in the world. In 1839 French and Heiser took the Garden on a long lease and made further improvements and established a new policy. A company of minstrels in which were Barney Williams, Billy Whitlock, Dan Gardner and others were the attraction in 1845 and 1846. After being closed for a time the Garden was reopened June 28, 1847, with a dramatic company which included George Holland, Charles M. Walcot, Miss Clarke, Miss Itherwood and others. Following this the Havana Opera company began an engagement August 8. A company under the management of George Holland opened June 5, 1848. Among its members were George Andrews, John Nickinson, Mr. Baker, Mr. Roche, W. B. Conover, Mrs. Vernon, Charlotte Nickinson, and Mrs. Phillips. The summer of 1850 the Garden again was occupied by the Havana Opera company. The greatest events in the history of the Garden were the six concerts given by Jenny Lind, beginning September 11, 1850. The famous singer then made her first appearances in America under the management of P. T. Barnum. The demand for seats was phenomenal, the takings on the first day's sale amounting to $10,141. The receipts for the six concerts were, in the order named, $17,864.05, $14,263.03, $12,519.29, $14,236.69, $12,174.74, $16,628.39. From June 23 to September 19, 1851, an Italian opera company, composed of members of the Astor Place Opera House company and managed by Max Maretzek, appeared at the Garden. Jenny Lind gave her farewell American concert there on May 24, 1852, before 7,000 people. During the summer of 1852 French and Heiser provided a mixed entertainment of French opera comique, vaudeville and ballet. A dramatic festival to commemorate the centennial of the introduction of the drama in America was given September 6, 1872. The centennial, however, had actually occurred some twenty years before, since it is known that dramatic performances were given in this country in 1752. After this came promenade concerts, and then another season of Italian opera, beginning July 11, 1853. The summer closed with a second series of concerts. Max Maretzek gave Italian opera again in the summer of 1854, ending August 24. Grisi and Mario made their debuts here September 4, under the management of James H. Hackett, in Lucrezia Borgia. The audience numbered 15,000 people. The engagement continued until September 11. Equestrian exhibitions were given from October 23 to November 24. The Garden closed as a place of amusement in May, 1855, being converted into an immigration depot.—New York Dramatic Mirror.

OLD GODFREY HOUSE SOON TO VANISH

No part of New York city as existing at the beginning of the last century has undergone more radical change than the once charming Cherry Hill district, says the Herald. It comprised the famous old Rutgers Farm, and its name, as well as that of the portion known as Cherry street, was derived from a beautiful orchard of cherry trees adorning the pleasure resort opened by one Richard Sackett about the year 1670, called the Cherry Garden. The street was for a long time occupied by first class private



dwellings and by many of the leading merchants, living sometimes over their stores. Washington spent the early days of his presidential term at No. 1 Cherry street, the site of which is now covered by a pier of the Brooklyn bridge.

Near the corner of Market street there is yet standing an old time residence belonging to an heir of James Godfrey, well remembered by old sportsmen as the genial proprietor of a gunsmith's and fishing tackle shop at No. 72 Catharine street. No person now living can recollect when the old house was built, even by hearsay. Its floor beams and rafters are dressed by the adze out of the original hewn logs. At one time, when rents were much lower than at present, it commanded an annual rental of $900. Now, condemned by the authorities as unsafe for habitation, and about to be torn down, it stands like a wreck upon the shore, a "derelict" indeed.

NEW CURE FOR

KIDNEYS AND BLADDER

Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Gravel, Pain in the Back, Dropsy, etc., you will upon request be mailed

A LARGE TRIAL CASE FREE.

Disorders of the Kidneys and Bladder cause Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Gravel, Pain in the back, Bladder Disorders, difficult or too frequent passing of water, Dropsy, etc. For these diseases a Positive Specific Cure is found in a new botanical discovery, the wonderful Kava-Kava Shrub, called by botanists the PIPER METHYSTICUM, from the Ganges River, East India. It has the extraordinary record of 1,200 hospital cures in 40 days. It acts directly on the Kidneys, and cures by draining from the Blood the poisonous Uric Acid, Lithates, etc., which cause the disease.

Rev. W. B. Moore, D. D., of Washington, D. C., testifies in the Christian Advocate that it completely cured him of Kidney and Bladder Disease of many years' standing. Hon. R. C. Wood, of Lowell, Ind., writes that in four weeks the Kava-Kava Shrub cured him of Rheumatism and Kidney and Bladder disease after ten years' suffering, the bladder trouble being so great he had to rise ten to twelve times during the night. Many ladies, including Mrs. C. L. Fowler, of Lockport, N. Y., and Mrs. James Young, of Kent, O., also testify to its wonderful curative powers in Kidney and other disorders peculiar to womanhood.

That you may judge of the value of this Great Discovery for yourself, we will send you one Large Case by mail free, only asking that when cured yourself you will recommend it to others. It is a sure specific and can not fail. Address The Church Kidney Cure Company, No. 419 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

MOTHERHOOD

Is a natural instinct which shows itself in the girl as soon as she is big enough to play the mother to her doll. Unfortunately the womanly health does not always keep pace with the motherly instinct, and when real motherhood comes it often comes to mothers who suffer intolerably during maternity and who are unable to nurse the weakling child which frets and moans in their arms.

Motherhood is prepared for and provided for by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It cures nausea, tranquilizes the nerves, gives a healthy appetite and promotes restful sleep. It makes the baby's advent practically painless, and gives the mother abundant strength to nurse her child.

Accept no substitute for "Favorite Prescription." There is nothing "just as good" for weak and sickly women.

"Two years ago I was very sick and began taking your 'Favorite Prescription,'" writes Mrs. Ed. Hackett, of Chardon, Geauga Co., Ohio. "When my baby boy came he weighed twelve pounds and a half. Have had good health ever since, until about three weeks ago, when weaning my baby, I contracted a heavy cold. Am taking your Golden Medical Discovery.' I am thankful that poor sufferers have such a grand chance to regain their health by using Dr. Pierce's medicines. It would take pages to tell the good it has done in our family, and in a great many more families under my observation.

"I thank you for your kind medical advice."

Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser in paper covers is sent *free* on receipt of 21 cents in one-cent stamps to pay expense of mailing *only*. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

A MAMMOTH SKULL BROUGHT FROM ALASKA

Peter Olstad, formerly of Oseo, Wis., recently returned from Cape Nome with a fair proportion of the gold he had gone in search of, but also bringing a very extraordinary trophy—the skull of a gigantic mammoth, one of the most remarkable specimens of its kind ever discovered, and which he may perhaps finally present to the Smithsonian Institution. Prospecting up Shovel creek, near Nome, Olstad crossed over to the Pensacola river, and while panning along its banks observed a piece of bone protruding from the ground. After a good deal of excavating he uncovered the skull of a mammoth measuring four feet eight inches across, the eye apertures being twenty-two inches in diameter.

The lower part of the skull is imperfect, some of the bones being missing, but on the whole it is considered to be in a satisfactory state of preservation and a specimen of unusual interest. No other parts of the mammoth's skeleton could be discovered, although effort was made to find them, and this fact seems to establish the theory that the skull had been deposited where it was found by glacial action. The weight of the skull is three hundred and fifty pounds.

Olstad also discovered what appears to be the skull of some prehistoric bird; the beak was partly broken off, and the whole skull so fragile that it would stand but little handling. This relic measures twenty-eight inches in length and weighs eleven pounds.

Olstad carried his finds thirty miles overland to the head of Solomon river, and then down that stream and coastwise to Nome by boat. Before leaving Alaska for New York, whence he sailed a few days since for a visit to Sweden, Mr. Olstad asked Dr. J. M. Hewitt, of Nome, to examine the mammoth's skull. The doctor said he believed, from comparative anatomical observation, that the skull had been that of a mammoth gigantus, or primeval Alaskan mastodon. —New York Herald.

This Will Interest Many.

F. W. Parkhurst, the Boston publisher, says that if anyone afflicted with rheumatism in any form, or neuralgia, will send their address to him at Box 1,501, Boston, Mass., he will direct them to a perfect cure. He has nothing to sell, or give, only tells you how he was cured. Hundreds have tested it with success.

PERIOD OF THE FLOOD.

"Now," said the doctor, "if you wish to escape a return of the grip, you must take every precaution to avoid getting your feet wet."

"All right, doctor," said the grateful patient. "Shall I wear rubber shoes when I take a bath?"—Baltimore American.

"That great Italian tenor told me he had a mattress stuffed full of the laurel wreaths that have been given him."

"A mattress full! Then he ought to retire on them."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Hooray!" exclaimed the optimistic horse. "The automobile won't be able to take our places altogether."

"What have you heard?" inquired the other.

"Why, it says in this paper that the auto manufacturers will still have to use horse-hide for the leather finishings."—Philadelphia Press.

"Yes," said the returned native, "I have become a benedict since I saw you last. I understand you have married, too."

"No, thank heaven!" replied Henpeck, "only one."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"He looks like a king!" said the fair girl, in tones of intense admiration.

"Why, he impresses me as rather nervous and timid," commented the other young woman.

"Well," was the rejoinder, after some reflection, "that is easily accounted for. You know kings in Europe are nearly always having something thrown at them nowadays."—Washington Star.

"A humorist is a man who makes other people cheerful, isn't he?"

"Oh, no; a humorist is a man who can keep his own spirits up."—Chicago News.

"Your love letters," wrote a Boston man to his New York fiancee, gently but firmly, "are not couched in the exactest English."

"My love letters," replied she, "are not for publication, but merely as a guarantee of good faith."—Detroit Free Press.

Vexed Question Settled.

"In order to decide a long-standing controversy," said the squirrel, "would you mind telling me why you wabble your nose?"

"To show that I have something else to do with it besides sticking it into other people's affairs," frigidly answered the rabbit.—Chicago Tribune.

THE FLIGHT OF JOHN WILKES BOOTH

Interest Still Alive in the Incidents Connected With Lincoln's Assassination.

At this season each year interest reverts to the dramatic flight of John Wilkes Booth from Washington, and the remarkable manner in which, for a whole week he eluded his pursuers, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Evening Post. It is not strange that an occasional traveler on the crowded sidewalk of the south side of F street now stops to glance down a cobble-stone alleyway, which leads to the rear entrance of the old Ford's theater building, and to recall that out of that passageway Booth came in his flight on the evening of April 14, 1865. For the following week, two southern counties of Maryland, Charles and St. Mary, were literally overrun with detectives, federal soldiers and the surplus population of the cities of Baltimore and Washington, seeking the large reward that was offered for his arrest.

Although the trial of the accomplices of Booth was one of the most notable ever held, and the most fully reported, the testimony appears not to have brought out the detailed route of Booth from Dr. Mudd's house, near Bryantown, which he left on Saturday afternoon, to the point where he crossed the Potomac. Our present geological survey maps picture this country with minute accuracy. Every rustic road and almost every cart-path is represented. All streams, bridges, swamps, fords, and all the topographical features appear. It may safely be said, moreover, that few places in the United States have in the last thirty-six years undergone less change than this peninsula between the Potomac and the Patuxent rivers. It is a slow farming region, away from everywhere, and probably it had nearly the same number of houses then as now, and about the same ones. Under these circumstances one would suppose that, for a distance of only thirty miles out of Washington, by road, it would be a simple matter to trace with red ink upon the map the exact route which John Wilkes Booth took on his perilous journey. But such is not the case.

Booth was secreted near the point where he crossed the river by a simple-hearted countryman named Jones. One of the most accurate reviewers of the flight calls him "Brown," and at all events his story is shrouded in uncertainty. He appears to have escaped punishment when arrested on another charge, by the perjury of his faithful negro servant and former slave, just as did Cox, the man who had put Booth in his care. This man Jones died about two years ago, when nearly eighty years of age. He had often visited Mr. Oldroyd and had talked over the affair with him. Williams, the detective, who had suspected at the time that Jones knew more than he would tell, and so had offered him a large reward, corroborated this old man's story. About eight years ago somebody got hold of him and wrote a little book, in which his experiences with Booth in the memorable week are related in the first person. It is a fascinating story, but, I am told, never has had much of a sale. Its literary style made it impossible as a product of the man whose name appeared on the cover, and the fact that the information had so long been withheld, and that Jones did not appear at all among the witnesses at the trial of the Lincoln assassins, detracted from the favor with which it would otherwise have been received. Even Col. Nicolay, one of Lincoln's notable biographers, said to your correspondent that he could not speak concerning the truthfulness of the Jones story, but he had been inclined to give it credence in the absence of anything contradictory.

There are really no good reasons for discrediting "Jones," whether his name be that or Brown. The essentials of his story must have been those of somebody's experience. He found a hiding place for the two fugitives, and directed Herold to take their horses to a neighboring swamp and kill them, lest an occational whinny should disclose their whereabouts. This man found a spring, but warned the fugitives against the path which other people occasionally took to reach it. He visited them daily, carrying food and newspapers, and each time making an approach after an agreed signal had been properly answered. At one time a troop of cavalry rode past, so near that their voices could be heard. Booth was eager to move on; but each day his guardian had to tell him that it was imprudent, and to insist that he endure the torture of a swollen and uncared-for limb, with insufficient food and no covering except blankets. It was rather dreary spring weather, according to all accounts—much like that which we have been having for the last few weeks.

On Friday evening, a week after the assassination, Jones was in the village store when he heard the captain of one of the searching parties call his men to go over into another neighborhood, saying triumphantly that Booth had been scented there. This was Jones' signal to move before the mistake should be discovered. He went to the fugitives and told them to prepare to start, giving them his own horse. Booth rode on the horse, while Herold walked by his side. Jones walked on ahead, and at each sixty paces gave the fugitives a signal to advance if the road was clear. While waiting for this signal they stayed in the underbrush. Two houses which they had to pass were regarded as extra hazardous, on account of dogs at one and a multitude of children at the other; but they finally reached the creek in safety. Jones took from Booth eighteen dollars, the sum which the boat had cost him in Baltimore the year before, as he knew he should never see it again; he refused all further compensation.

Heredity.

Tom—Do you believe in the doctrine of heredity?

Jerry—Of course I do. Did you notice what a beautiful black eye Charley had yesterday? He got that from his father.

Tom—But his father hasn't a black eye.

Jerry—Can't help that. It was from the old man that Charley got it. He told me so himself.—Boston Transcript.

One on Delia.

"Oh, this is too bad."

"What's the matter?"

"Delia Jones sent me a lovely book as a birthday gift and she forgot to take out the card of the person who gave it to her."—Detroit Free Press.

FOUND OUT.

A Trained Nurse Discovered Its Effect.

No one is in better position to know the value of food and drink than a trained nurse.

Speaking of coffee, a nurse of Wilkesbarre, Pa., writes: "I used to drink strong coffee myself, and suffered greatly from headaches and indigestion. While on a visit to my brothers I had a good chance to try Postum Cereal Food Coffee, for they drank it altogether in place of ordinary coffee. In two weeks after using Postum I found I was much benefited and finally my headaches disappeared and also the indigestion.

Naturally I have since used Postum among my patients, and have noticed a marked benefit where coffee has been left off and Postum used.

I observe a curious fact about Postum used among mothers. It greatly helps the flow of milk in cases where coffee is inclined to dry it up, and where tea causes nervousness.

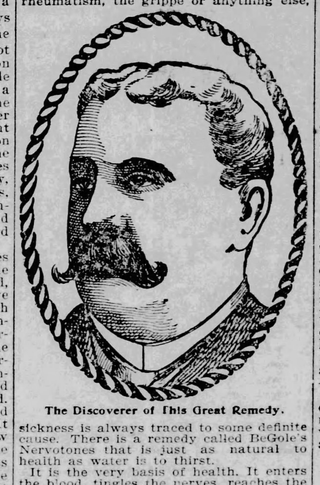
I find trouble in getting servants to make Postum properly. They most always serve it before it has been boiled long enough. It should be boiled 15 or 20 minutes and served with cream, when it is certainly a delicious beverage." Mrs. Ella C. Barns, 309 E. South St., Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Cures The Sick Free.

BeGole's Nervotones are the Greatest Remedy Ever Discovered for the Weak and Debilitated.

Cures Rheumatism, Weak Back, Kidneys, Bladder, Liver, Heart, Nervousness, Losses and all Conditions Due to Excess and Violation of Nature.

The basis of all sickness is a violation of the laws of health. It matters not whether it be overwork, worry, colds, rheumatism, the grippe or anything else,



The Discoverer of This Great Remedy.

sickness is always traced to some definite cause. There is a remedy called BeGole's Nervotones that is just as natural to health as water is to thirst.

It is the very basis of health. It enters the blood, tingles the nerves, reaches the vitals, the stomach, liver, kidneys, bladder, the nerves of motion, of feeling, of action, arouses all the muscles and no matter what the cause of weakness this wonderful remedy incites strength and activity. Weak men attain vigor, sick women get well, and whether it be youthful indiscretion or any other cause that drains the vitality of its strength BeGole's Nervotones will brace you up and make you strong, vigorous and full of life.

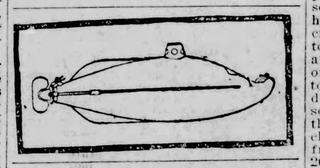
Do not doubt or despair but send your name and address at once to M. BeGole & Co., 340 Main St., Marshall, Mich., and they will gladly send you free in a plain wrapper a large box of BeGole's Nervotones absolutely free. Do not under any circumstances miss this genuine and philathropic offer. Write to-day without fail.

Now, when they say free, they mean free, and you won't be asked to pay for it after awhile, nor do they ask for references, testimonials or any pay whatever in any manner or form.

A NEW KIND OF SUBMARINE BOAT

Daniel F. Toomey, an expert in submarine work, of Guilford, Conn., has invented a new kind of submarine boat, which is claimed to have many advantages over those hitherto devised, says the New York Herald. The main feature of the invention consists in providing two propeller blades mounted on the top of the boat, one at the stern and the other on the slightly upturned nose at bow. These are pitched at a slight incline from a horizontal plane. These will assist in propelling the boat forward as well as to cause it to sink.

The natural position of the boat when on the surface is to be two-thirds under water so that her side propellers are sub-



merged. To submerge the boat entirely water is let in till the base of the conning tower is on a level with the surface of the water. Both top propeller blades are then set in motion till the boat is sunk to the desired depth.

Water ballast may then be pumped out and the top propeller blades will keep the boat submerged and at the same time assist in forcing her forward; therefore, no power is lost.

The boat is also provided with two horizontal fins, one on each side, which, with the aid of the top propeller blades keep the boat level while traveling under water.

A CURE FOR ASTHMA.

Asthma sufferers need no longer leave home and business in order to be cured. Nature has produced a vegetable remedy that will permanently cure Asthma and all diseases of the lungs and bronchial tubes. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases (with a record of 90 per cent permanently cured), and desiring to relieve human sufferings, I will send free of charge to all sufferers from Asthma, Consumption, Catarrh, Bronchitis and nervous diseases, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail. Address with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noyes, 81 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

Madge—She is singularly deficient in the subject of history.

Marjorie—What else could you expect, when she spends all the time reading the popular historical novels?—Judge.

"Pat," said a manager to one of his workmen, "you must be an early riser, always find you at work the first thing in the morning."

"Indade, and Oi am, sor. It's a family trait, Oi'm thinking."

"Then your father was an early riser, too?"

"Me father, is it? He roises that early that if he went to bed a little later he'd meet himself getting up in the mornin'."—Tit-Bits.

The teacher was trying to explain to the little girl what faith is.

"Now, when your father plants his flower seeds in the spring, how does he know they'll come up?"

"Cause our neighbors has dot chickens, ma'am," said the little one.—Yonkers Statesman.

Edith—I should hate to be the President.

Jack—And why?

Edith—Oh, one has to be over forty, you know.—Judge.

"There," exclaimed the druggist, "I have made a mistake and given a man morphine instead of quinine."

"That's awful," shrieked his wife.

"I should say so," said the druggist. "Morphine is worth twice as much as quinine."—Tit-Bits.

"Did you get your promotion?" asked a friend of a warrant officer in the navy.

"No," was the answer, given in a tone of disgust.

"What was the trouble? I'm sure you could pass the examination."

"That's just where I missed it. Barely got through with the two-step, but flunked completely in the waltz."—Judge.

"Foundation skirts!" he quoted, looking up from a fashion article that he had inadvertently come across. "What a queer name!"

"A most appropriate name," she asserted rather sharply.

"I suppose," he went on musingly, "the bodice is to be regarded as the superstructure and the hat as the cornice. On the whole, I rather guess it's a good way to designate them. Architectural terms certainly seem to apply to some gowns."

"What for instance?"

"Well, the skirts that are made to stick out just a certain way might be said to be built on the steel frame construction principle."—Chicago Evening Post.

"Always tell the truth, my boy," counseled Uncle Allen Sparks, "but don't be always telling it."—Chicago Tribune.

The Farmstead.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Small Potatoes.

Editor Farmstead:—The time has arrived again for planting potatoes. Have thought for a long time I would ask The Blade if there is any way to prevent having so many small potatoes in the hills. Even when we raise a so-called good crop there are hundreds of little potatoes. How can we get rid of these little ones, and turn 'em into big ones, is the problem. Do we have our potatoes too thick in hill? How many plants or sprouts should be in hill? Heard of thinning potatoes like corn. Anything in that? If you have got a remedy for small potatoes, give it to your readers.—J. M. B., Woodlawn, Mo.

We should try a fertilizer containing potash. This salt is necessary to potatoes, and it is fair to assume the small potatoes would develop into large ones if there were enough of it available for the plants. However, we will be glad to hear from our readers on the subject.

Killing Sparrows.

Editor Farmstead:—Can you tell me what it is that sparrow hunters use to put on grain to stupify the birds so they can pick them up? A man went through here some time ago making a business of killing English sparrows. He would scatter wheat soaked in some kind of liquid along the street, and inside of a half hour go back, pick up and wring the necks of the sparrows. He gathered nearly a bushel. He said that if he would leave them much over half an hour they would recover and fly away. Please answer this, if you can. —G. C. L., Big Rapids, Mich.

We have no doubt the grain was soaked in alcohol. Try soaking some over night in alcohol, and then scattering it where the sparrows will eat it. Does any reader know of any other liquid?

Dehorning Cattle.

Editor Farmstead:—I have heard it argued that cows, after being dehorned, would increase in flesh and decrease in milk until about the third or fourth year, then would go dry. Is there any foundation for this?—W. T. R., Canton, N. C.

There is no truth in the statement, so far as we can learn. We never heard it before, and know of many dairymen who have dehorned cows, who say it has no effect on either milk or flesh. What is the experience of Blade readers?

Canker in Chickens.

Editor Farmstead:—Our chickens are dying with some disease. Their heads swell up and in one side of their mouth where the swelling is there is dried up matter, the eyes being swollen shut. Please answer.—L. B., Ruthven, Iowa.

The disease is canker. For treatment, see Farmstead in Weekly Blade of April 11, answer headed "Canker in Fowls."

Mites on Poultry.

Editor Farmstead:—I see in the Weekly Blade of April 18, in your reply to O. F. L., Crounce, Neb., how to get rid of mites in a hen house. You advise him to close the house and burn sulphur, or mix equal parts of carbolic acid and coal oil. Now advise him to do no such thing, as he may succeed in killing half of his fowls, and suffocating himself, and would do no good. Tell him to take the first warm morning after a hot night and take his roosts out and pile them up two or three deep, bottom up, having first heated water boiling hot in a tea kettle or something of the kind and scald them thoroughly. Now take a plentiful supply of scalding water and with a force pump or a dipper, scald thoroughly the hen house inside, and he will have no hen lice. Repeat this two or three times during the season. If his roosts are smooth, tell him to throw them away and get rough, cracked ones, with cracks on the bottom side, as the lice will gather there and he can get them. Do not drive them on the hens as you proposed. Coax them to the roosts. Give the hens plenty road dust, ashes, and lime to wallow in and scald the lice. This is the cheapest and the best, if not the only way to keep clear of lice. I have tried all and speak from experience. I am keeping about 200 hens in one flock and roosting in one room, and have more or less for years.—H. H. G., Corry, Pa.

Ginseng Seed.

Editor Farmstead:—In answer to H. S. E., Ponca, Neb., I will say gather ginseng seed this fall, as it ripens. The best time for planting it is in the fall. All you have to do it to plant it somewhere in a shady place, about one foot each way. The root does not get the proper size until three or four years old. I don't believe it will do any good where it does not naturally grow. As to its preparation for market there is nothing to do but dry the roots. We get $5 per pound here for it.—D. E., Zionville, N. C.

To Destroy Persimmon Roots.

Editor Farmstead:—Please tell A. J. R., of Gobo, Ky., to just dig, plow or tear out the persimmon shoots by the root—any way, so as to get all the root out. Then lay them flat on the ground, with the root end to the sun. If it should rain in a day or two he would better turn them over, one by one, and shake the dirt off. If this does not kill them, pile them up and set fire to them.—Subscriber, Abingdon, Ill.

INQUIRIES.

Who Can Tell?

Editor Farmstead:—I have a flock of leghorn chickens. They are still laying good, but they have begun to die. The comb turns blue, and the throat and mouth blue also. They will droop for a few days, when they die. Is there a remedy for it?—P. K., Jaubert, S. D.

Editor Farmstead:—I have a few fine barred Plymouth Rocks among whom a disease has appeared which I do not understand. They first go lame in one leg and finally in both, until they cannot walk, and the tail droops. They eat and do not seem to lose weight, nor to be especially affected in any other way. I am anxious to hear of a cure.—F. D. H., Wilbur, Wash.

Texas Itch.

Editor Farmstead:—I have a valuable mare which rubs and gnaws herself. In patches, the hair comes off to the skin; than the skin cracks open. Some say it is the Texas itch. It is contagious. Will some reader tell me what it is, and what to do?—G. E. V., Hacker Valley, W. Va.

Falling Plums.

Editor Farmstead:—I have a fine lot of plum trees. They have borne about

Blood Poison Cured Free

The Remedy Is Sent Absolutely Free to Every Man or Woman Sending Name and Address.

A celebrated Fort Wayne Physician has discovered the most wonderful cure for Syphilis or Blood Poison ever known. It quickly cures all such indications as mucous patches in the mouth, sore throat, copper colored spots, chancres, ulcerations on the body, and in hundreds of cases where the hair and eyebrows had fallen out and the whole skin was a mass of boils, pimples and ulcers, this wonderful specific has completely changed the whole body into a clean, perfect condition of physical health.

The illustrations above plainly show what this Grand Discovery will do.

William McGrath, 48 Guilford st., Buffalo, N. Y., says: "I am a well man today where a year ago I was a total wreck. Several doctors had failed to cure me of syphilis. I was rid of my sores and my skin became smooth and natural in two weeks, and after completing the treatment there was not a sore or pimple on my body, and to-day I am absolutely well. I give you permission to use my name and I will answer all inquiries from suffering men."

Every railroad running into Ft. Wayne brings scores of sufferers seeking this new and marvelous cure and to enable those who cannot travel to realize what a truly marvelous work the doctor is accomplishing they will send free to every sufferer a free trial package of the remedy so that everyone can cure themselves in the privacy of their own home. This is the only known treatment that cures this most terrible of all diseases. Address the State Medical Institute, 2352 Elektron Building, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Do not hesitate to write at once, and the free trial package will be sent sealed in plain package.

five years. While they are still green the plums fall off. If there is anything that can be done for them, please tell me at once.—Reader, Ecorse, Mich.

Club Root in Cabbage.

Editor Farmstead:—Will some one let me know through your valuable paper, what is the cause of club root in cabbage, and if there is any way to prevent it?—W. F. W., McAlevy's Port, Pa.

Incubator and Brooder.

Editor Farmstead:—Will you or some reader or readers please give me full directions for making and running an incubator—either top or bottom heat, or both? Also tell me how to make a good brooder.—A. L., Shooks, Tenn.

Raspberry Scab.

Editor Farmstead:—What disease is it on my raspberry vines? There is a scab or white scale which attacks the cane at the ground, extending up the cane sometimes a foot. It comes on in the late fall or early winter. I can pick the scales off with a knife. It does not injure the cane to destroy it entirely.—I. S. L., Central W. Va.

To Destroy Horse Radish.

Editor Farmstead:—Will some one please answer as soon as possible how to exterminate horseradish? It has almost ruined our garden.—L. R., Oakharbor, Ohio.

Apple Insect—Grubs.

Editor Farmstead:—Will some one please inform me about a little red speckled bug found mostly about the roots of apple trees? It is most always in bunches or families, and about the same size. Do they ever change to something else, and do they do any harm or not?

Also, who can and will tell if the grub found in young cattle's backs makes a cow fly—I mean a fly that bites cattle; and when and how does it get in the back?—J. C. M. R., Abingdon, Ill.

Sowing Onion Seed.

Editor Farmstead:—Will some one be kind enough to tell me when to plant onion seed to make sets for the following season that they will not make seed? —E. N., Sherman, W. Va.

To Kill Sorrel.

Editor Farmstead:—What is a remedy to destroy sorrel on land? Maybe some readers of The Blade have had experience with it.—J. W. T.

An Ailing Colt.

Editor Farmstead:—I have a colt which will be two years old this spring, which has been sick all winter. There seems to be some affection of the joints. It is so stiff it can hardly walk. It has large swellings on its shoulder joints, and also on the stifle joints and on its knees behind. It blistered its stifle and knee joints, but it did no good. Its appetite is good, but its kidneys do not act very well. It has been in this condition about three months. It stands on a plank floor in the barn; will that make any difference? Please give full treatment in your paper if you think there is any remedy for it?—J. E. H., Yelk, W. V.

The plank floor is objectionable. An earth floor, not too hard, should be substituted at once. As to treatment, we shall be glad to receive suggestions from readers.

FARM BUTTER

Can Be Good Enough to Compete With Creamery Product.

In the matter of making butter, the private dairyman can learn a great deal from his creamery brother. The latter has made the subject of butter-making a life study, and many of the things that he has discovered can be applied to advantage on the farm. It is assumed that the milk and cream will receive the best of care previous to reaching the cream vat.

High flavor or quick aroma of butter is due to the breaking up of the milk sugar, forming lactic acid, and is possibly the result of a series of germs that get into the cream during the process of ripening (souring). If cream is churned while sweet considerable butter will be lost in the buttermilk, and the butter will lack flavor, no matter what the cows are fed. If cream ripens too much we will get sour butter, or "rotten egg flavor." Cream ready to be churned has a smooth, granular appearance, with a rather sharp, acid taste. When cream reaches this condition, it should either be churned at once or cooled down to about fifty degrees F., and warmed to fifty-eight or sixty degrees when churned. So important is the right amount of acid, that our best butter-makers have what is called an acid test for determining the amount. To hasten the ripening, or to get the right kind of lactic acid germs, starters are sometimes used to advantage. These may consist either of buttermilk, sour skim-milk, or especially prepared commercial starters. Starters on the farm can doubtless be best procured by using milk or skim-milk. Select a good healthy cow, put her milk into a well-scalded can, and keep at a temperature of eighty-five to ninety degrees until it becomes clabbered. Then use about one part of starter to nine parts of cream. The cream may be kept at a temperature anywhere from sixty degrees to seventy-five degrees F., if care be taken to cool it down as soon as the right quantity of lactic acid is developed.

If the local market calls for colored butter, the coloring matter should be put into the cream as soon as the latter enters the churn. The ideal color for butter is that produced naturally under June conditions, where the cows have an abundance of fresh green grass. At no time of the year should we attempt to give butter any higher color than this.

Cream should be churned at as low a temperature as possible and have the butter come in from one-half to one hour. Warm cream and rapid churning mean a large quantity of butter lost in the buttermilk, as well as soft butter, which is very hard to handle after it comes. The churn should be stopped when the butter is in a granular condition, about one-twelfth of an inch in diameter. If churned more than this it will be impossible to get the butter evenly washed and salted without spoiling the grain. When a piece of good butter is broken, it should have the appearance of broken cast-iron, and not the salvy, greasy-looking article that we often see at the store. When the butter granules have reached the right size the buttermilk should be drained off, and the butter thoroughly washed with pure, clean water, at a temperature of fifty to sixty degrees F. This should be continued until the water coming from the butter ceases to have a milky appearance.

The quantity of salt should be varied according to the demands of the market; usually an ounce to the pound is sufficient. This salt should be of the finest and best quality and thoroughly incorporated into the butter granules, and usually after slight working the butter should be allowed to stand several hours, in order that the salt may become dissolved and thoroughly distributed. While the light and dark spots in butter known as mottles are sometimes caused by an uneven distribution of moisture, it is much more generally caused by an uneven distribution of salt. Work the butter just as little as possible. The only object of working is to distribute the salt and compact the butter. When the salt is brought in contact with the butter in the granular condition, the necessity of working is reduced to a minimum.

For private dairying there is probably no better package than the pound print wrapped in parchment paper. It is well to have a brand engraved in the print which will leave its impress upon every pound of good butter sold, but never send any poor butter under this brand, as it would be liable to spoil one's reputation. All butter prints and butter packages should present a neat, clean appearance, and never be allowed to be smeared with particles of butter or stained with imprints of dirty fingers.—Professor Otis, Kansas Agricultural College.

SKIM MILK CALVES.

How They Can Be Raised Upon It With Profit.

Professor D. H. Otis, of Kansas Agricultural college, says concerning the important problem of rearing calves upon skim-milk:

In nature, the calf gets its milk often, but in small quantities, and always at blood temperature. At first the calf should not be fed over ten pounds daily one quart equals about two pounds), divided into three messes; four pounds in the morning, two pounds at noon, and four pounds at night. This quantity may be increased gradually to twelve pounds per day. After two weeks the milk may be given only twice daily. Calf milk should always be fed warm and sweet. If impossible to have the milk sweet all the time, then it should be fed sour every meal. It is possible to raise good calves on sour milk, but it is impossible to raise good calves and have sweet milk one meal and sour the next.

When two or three weeks old we may begin to feed skim milk. The stomach of a calf is delicate and sensitive, and any change of feed should be made gradually. Do not change from whole milk to skim-milk faster than a pound or a pound and one-half per day; i. e., if the calf is getting twelve pounds of whole milk per day, the first day of the change feed eleven pounds of whole milk and one pound of skim-milk; the second day ten pounds of whole milk and two pounds of skim-milk, and so on, until the change is complete.

It has been found by experience that the starch and fat contained in corn or Kafir corn can be made to take the place of fat removed from the milk. Calves will begin to eat grain when from ten days to two weeks old. At first put a little meal in their mouths after drinking their milk, and in a short time they will go to their feed-boxes and eat with a relish. We find that calves four weeks old will eat from one-half to three-fourths of a pound per day; when eight weeks old, from one and one-fourth to one and one-half pounds per day.

Kafir corn meal has proved to be a superior feed for calves. It seems to be somewhat constipating, and materially assists in checking the common tendency to scours.

Calves will begin to nibble at hay about the same time they will commence to eat grain. When from six to eight weeks old, the calves under experiment at our agricultural college consumed from one-half to one pound daily per head. Mixed orchard-grass and prairie hay are best. Alfalfa hay proves to be too loosening for young calves, though it may gradually be introduced into the ration after from three to four months. Nothing but clean, bright hay should be used.

The greatest difficulty in raising calves is undoubtedly scours. Here, as elsewhere, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." The principal causes are overfeeding, feeding sour milk, feeding cold milk, feeding grain with the milk, dirty milk-pails, unwholesome feed boxes and irregularity of feeding. An intelligent and observing feeder will notice the symptoms of this disease as soon as it appears, in which case the ration of milk should be cut down one-half or more, and gradually increased again as the calf is able to stand it. A successful feeder will do his best to keep the milk sweet.

Heating milk seems to produce chemical changes that help to prevent scours. There is probably no more effective way of upsetting the system of the young calf than by feeding it cold milk. So important is it always to feed the milk at blood temperature (95 degrees to 100 degrees F.), that a careful feeder will test the temperature with a thermometer. No one can expect to successfully raise skim-milk calves without giving close attention to the temperature of the milk fed.

Calf buckets may be kept clean by rinsing and scalding after each feed. No more grain or hay should be given than the calves will eat up clean. Should any remain uneaten it should be removed before giving any fresh feed. Calves like salt the same as any other animals.

WHEN NATURE

Needs assistance it may be best to render it

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers would be free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, nor concerning prices of coins. 6.—No answers by mail.

Infectious Diseases.

"Please tell me when, after infection, the symptoms of serious infectious diseases first appear, and how long the result is in doubt?"—W. G. H., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Following is a list of infectious diseases, with the day on which symptoms appear and number of days over which the anxious period extends:

	Symptoms Appear.	Anxious Period.
Chicken pox	14th day	10-18 days
Diphtheria	2d day	2-5 days
Measles	11th day	10-14 days
Mumps	19th day	16-24 days
Scarlet fever	4th day	1-7 days
Smallpox	12th day	1-14 days
Typhoid fever	21st day	1-28 days
Whooping cough	14th day	7-14 days

Cabling to Manila.

"Can you give in detail the geographical points or route traversed by the famous message of President McKinley to Dewey at Hong Kong, commanding him to move on Manila, from its start at Washington to its reception at Hong Kong, and also the distance between these two points via the route referred to?"—H. G. M., Bright, Tenn.

The route is that by which cable messages have come from and gone to Hong Kong (and Manila) for years, and go every day at present. There is no need to single out Dewey's message, because its course was in no wise different in any way.

The route of any message from Washington to Manila is this: From Washington to New York by land; from thence to Nova Scotia by land; thence by cable to Waterville, on the west coast of Ireland; thence by land and cable to London; thence overland to Land's End; thence by cable to Lisbon, Portugal; thence to Gibraltar; thence by cable to Malta, thence by cable to Alexandria, thence to Port Said; thence under the Red Sea to Aden; thence by cable under the Indian ocean to Bombay; thence overland across India to Madras; thence by cable to Penang; thence by cable to Singapore; thence by cable to Saigon; thence by cable to Hong Kong; thence by cable 1,000 miles, to Balinao, the cable station of the Philippines, which is 30 miles from Manila, to which it goes overland. We have not the distances between points, but the distance traversed from New York to Manila is about 14,000 miles. It passes through the hands of over a dozen operators, and the time of transmission is about four hours and a half.

The Vice Presidents.

"Please give a list of the Vice Presidents of the United States, and their time of service."—E. S. C., Aldine, Ind.

The list is as follows:	Took Office.
John Adams	1789
Thomas Jefferson	1797
Aaron Burr	1801
George Clinton	1805
Elbridge Gerry	1813
Daniel D. Tompkins	1817
John C. Calhoun	1825
Martin Van Buren	1833
Richard M. Johnson	1837
John Tyler	1841
George M. Dallas	1845
Millard Fillmore	1849
William R. King	1853
John C. Breckinridge	1857
Hannibal Hamlin	1861
Andrew Johnson	1865
Schuyler Colfax	1869
Henry Wilson	1873
Wm. A. Wheeler	1877
Chester A. Arthur	1881
Thos. A. Hendricks	1885
Levi P. Morton	1889
Adlai E. Stevenson	1893
Garret A. Hobart	1897
Theodore Roosevelt	1901

Gerry and Hobart died in office. King never took the oath of office, and died in Cuba, April 18, 1853. Tyler, Fillmore, Johnson and Arthur became President by the death of the President. There is no provision for filling a vacancy in the Vice Presidency, hence the office was vacant until the next Presidential term began.

A Lunar Appulse.

"Please explain a lunar appulse."—W. R. F., Jonesboro, Tenn.

The word appulse has been employed of recent years by astronomers to indicate an eclipse in which a very small part of the eclipsed body is covered by the eclipsing body. Thus, a lunar appulse is an eclipse of the moon in which only a very small part of the earth's shadow appears on the moon's disk. Formerly, all eclipses were called either total or partial. An appulse is a partial eclipse, but one which is very small. As stated above, they were formerly called partial eclipses. They are common, of course.

"Thumbs Up."

"Will you please give the origin of the game, 'Simon says, Thumbs up'."—X. Y., Mich.

We have no doubt it originated hundreds of years ago, as did many of the games dear to childhood. If any reader has a specific knowledge of its origin, we shall be glad to print it.

We have an idea that it may have originated among the children of ancient Rome, in the old pagan days, when combats of gladiators to the death were the popular amusement of the people. When one was stricken down, wounded, and unable to continue the combat, the victor waited the wish of the spectators. Those who wished him to let the wounded man live extended the hand with the thumb pointing up. But if, as was generally the case, their thumbs were turned down, the victor killed his victim.

Asphalt.

"Please give us a description of asphalt in its crude state; also the uses to which it is put."—J. J. W. L., Retreat, N. C.

Asphalt is a mineral, called also bitumen and mineral pitch. Its consistency, color and quality vary greatly, according to the amount of earthy matter in it. When approximately pure, it is black or dark brown, and about the consistence of resin. The largest amount is found in the island of Trinidad, and in Venezuela, where there are deposits, called lakes. It is dug out for shipment, but in a few days the vacancy is filled from below. Its chief use is for paving city streets, as it makes a roadway as smooth as a floor, and less noisy than any other material.

Iron and Steel.

"To-day I heard a dispute about iron and steel. A said that iron and steel are made from the same ore. B. said that each was a separate ore, and that common iron ore could not be made anything else. A said the finest steel was made from common iron ore. How is it? Is not common ore by chemical process made into iron or steel?"—Subscriber, Ozark, Ala.

Steel is nothing but iron containing a small percentage of carbon. Steel and iron are made from the same ore, which is called iron ore. But there are always impurities in iron ore, so that different ores are mixed, thus producing a desired grade of iron or steel. Steel was formerly made by placing wrought iron in iron boxes, packed in powdered coke or charcoal, and keeping it at a red heat for a given time. This caused it to take up carbon, and thus changed it into steel. But now it is made direct from pig iron. Bessemer discovered that cast iron has more carbon than steel has, and that by burning out the most of the carbon, cast steel resulted. When the iron comes from a furnace, it is cast or pig iron. In the Bessemer process, this melted iron is run from the furnace directly into a huge vessel called a converter. A strong blast is then turned on, and the carbon burns. Heating the contents of the converter still hotter. The flames issuing from the mouth of the converter are watched carefully, and when their color shows the carbon is nearly burned out, the blast is turned off, and the steel run out. This process is what enabled steel rails for railroads to be made, and structural steel for bridges and buildings.

Propellers.

"Please tell us how the propellers of a ship are geared to the engines."—J. C. S., New Dale, W. Va.

The propellers are not geared at all. Where a vessel has but one propeller, her three or four engines are all set vertically, and there are as many cranks on the propeller shaft as there are cylinders. Where there are two propellers, half the engines drive one and half the other, in the same way.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

"Dont Speak to me."

All manner of extravagant expressions are possible when a woman's nerves are overwrought.

The spasm at the top of the wind pipe or bronchial tubes, "ball rising in the throat," violent beating of the heart, laughing and crying by turns, muscular spasms (throwing the arms about), frightened by the most insignificant occurrences—are all symptoms of a hysterical condition and serious derangement of the female organs.

Any female complaint may produce hysterics, which must be regarded as a symptom only. The cause, however, yields quickly to **Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound**, which acts at once upon the organ afflicted and the nerve centers, dispelling effectually all those distressing symptoms.

Mrs. Lewis Says: "I Feel Like a New Person, Physically and Mentally."

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I wish to speak a good word for **Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.** For years I had ovarian trouble and suffered everything from nervousness, severe headache, and pain in back and abdomen. I had consulted different physicians, but decided to try your medicine, and I soon found it was giving me much relief. I continued its use and now am feeling like a new person, physically and mentally, and am glad to add one more testimonial to the value of your remedy."—MRS. M. H. LEWIS, 2108 Valentine Ave., Tremont, New York, N. Y.

Writing to Mrs. Pinkham is the quickest and surest way to get the right advice about all female troubles. Her address is Lynn, Mass. She advises women free. Following is an instance:

Mrs. Haven's First Letter to Mrs. Pinkham.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I would like your advice in regard to my troubles. I suffer every month at time of menstruation, and flow so much and for so long that I become very weak, also get very dizzy. I am troubled with a discharge before and after menses, have pains in ovaries so bad sometimes that I can hardly get around, have sore feeling in lower part of bowels, pain in back, bearing-down feeling, a desire to pass urine frequently, with pains in passing it; have leucorrhœa, headache, fainting spells, and sometimes have hysteria. My blood is not in good condition. Hoping to hear from you, I am," MRS. EMMA HAVEN, 2508 South Ave., Council Bluffs, Iowa. (June 3, 1899.)

Mrs. Haven's Second Letter.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I wish to express my gratitude for what your medicine has done for me. I suffered for four years with womb trouble. Every month I flowed very badly. I got so bad that I could hardly do my work. Was obliged to sit or lie down the most of the time. I doctored for a long time, but obtained no relief. I began using your remedies—**Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound,** Blood Purifier, Sanative Wash and Liver Pills—and now feel like a new woman."—MRS. EMMA HAVEN, 2508 South Ave., Council Bluffs, Iowa. (Feb. 1, 1900.)

$5000 REWARD

Owing to the fact that some skeptical people have from time to time questioned the genuineness of the testimonial letters we are constantly publishing, we have deposited with the National City Bank, of Lynn, Mass., $5,000, which will be paid to any person who will show that the above testimonials are not genuine, or were published before obtaining the writers' special permission.—LYDIA E. PINKHAM MEDICINE CO.

The Rainbow.

"Is the rainbow, which we see after a shower, between us and the mist which is before us, or is the mist between us and the rainbow?"—H. R. J., De Soto, Wis.

The rainbow is caused by the refraction and reflection of the rays of the sun by the falling rain drops. There is no "mist" about it. What you deem mist is the gray appearance of the falling rain, and the rainbow is formed by the light acting on the drops falling on the edge of the shower next the sun.

The Gregorian Calendar.

"According to the Gregorian calendar, every common year must be exactly divisibleby four in order to be a leap year, and every centennial year must be divisible by 400.

"Now every year is composed of 365¼ days, so every four years we have an extra day, and I should very much like to know what was done with the extra day of 1900 and 1900."—A. L., Sheffield, Iowa.

You are in error in assuming that the year is exactly 365¼ days long. That would be 365 days 6 hours. But the true length of the solar year is 365 days, 5 hours, 49 minutes, 12 seconds. That is, the year of 365¼ days is about 11 minutes too great. One additional day every four years regularly makes more than the surplus time, making an error on the other side. The Gregorian style of omitting three leap years in every 400 years, very nearly corrects the error, as the calendar year then exceeds the true solar year by only 22.28 seconds, which amounts to a day only in every 3,886 years.

Robin Adair.

"Was there ever a person named Robin Adair, of whom the famous song was written?"—A. B., Catlettsburg, Ky.

There was. He was born in Ireland about 1715. He was educated as a surgeon and practiced in Dublin, but being involved in a scandalous affair was compelled to flee the country, and went to England. He was called the "fortunate Irishman." The carriage of a lady of fashion was overturned, and Adair ran to her assistance. Being somewhat hurt, she requested him to travel with her to London, and on their arrival there she gave him a fee of 100 guineas and a second invitation to her house. There he met Lady Caroline Keppel, second daughter of the Earl of Albemarle and sister of the celebrated Admiral Keppel. Lady Caroline is said to have fallen in love with Adair at first sight. Adair promptly followed up his advantage by the display of his family, who tried every possible way to break off her attachment. These included several journeys, on one of which, at Bath, she is said to have written the words of this song and set them to a tune which she had heard Adair sing. This melody is claimed by both the Irish and Scotch.

Lazarus.

"Kindly inform me if there is any Scripture that teaches what became of Lazarus after he was raised from the dead?"—J. D. H., Holston Bridge, Va.

There is none whatever. The only mention of him is in the account of the miracle, which is given in John's gospel, but not in any of the other three. It has always been the belief of the church that Lazarus died the second time, of course.

Gold in California.

"By whom and when, and under what circumstances, was gold discovered in California?"—W. C. H., Pattie's Gap, Tenn.

Captain John A. Sutter, a Swiss, founded the first white settlement on the site of Sacramento, California, in 1839. He acquired a large tract of land, which he devoted to cattle raising. In 1844, James Wilson Marshall emigrated to California, and in 1847 entered the lumber business with Sutter at Coloma, El Dorado county. He prepared to erect a saw mill. On January 18, 1848, while constructing the mill race, he found a nugget of gold. Collecting several ounces in the gravel, he took the specimens to Sutter's Fort. Then came the rush of gold seekers to California.

The Three-Dollar Coin.

"How many $3 gold pieces were issued in the year 1854, and were there any issued in other years? I never have seen any of them other than 1854."—M. M. M., Florissant, Colo.

The $3 gold piece was authorized to be coined by the act of Feb. 21, 1853. Their coinage was discontinued by act of Sept. 26, 1890. The total amount coined was $1,619,378. The year 1854 was the first in which they were coined, and 163,738 pieces were coined that year. They were coined regularly every year until 1889.

Uncle Sam Doesn't Lend.

"Can an American citizen borrow money from the United States, to pay for land, on five years' time? I am informed the farmers in Ohio borrow money on five years' time."—W. M., Centerville, Miss.

The government does not lend money on interest to any one. When men borrow money to build a factory, or a railroad, or to buy a farm, they borrow from banks or individuals, but they never borrow from the government. And the people in Ohio have no privileges that the people of Mississippi or any other state don't enjoy.

Company Letters.

"In a regiment of soldiers the companies are named A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I and K, leaving J out. Why do they omit and take the next letter? Why not take J and leave the K out?"—C. R. D., Wyatt, W. Va.

Simply because I and J are so near alike when written that confusion would constantly arise from one letter being mistaken for the other in reports, orders, and official correspondence. It is not necessary that the alphabet be followed strictly, no more than it is that numbers should be used in the same way. In hotels and office buildings in cities, the rooms on the first floor are numbered beginning with 101, those on the second floor with 201, those on the fifth floor with 501, and so on, even if there be but a dozen or so rooms on the floor. It is more convenient, that is all.

Rural Free Delivery.

"Please give the particulars in regard to rural mail delivery through your paper, and also who pays the postman."—W. F. B., Sandusky, Ohio.

We do not know what particulars you want. A rural route will be established in commities where the roads are fair, and say 300 to 450 patrons on a route of about 25 miles. Your congressman is the proper person to apply to if you desire a route established. The United States government pays the carriers on rural routes, the same as it does carriers in cities.

Boycotting a Postoffice.

"Is there any law to prohibit the boycotting of a post office? One of the postmaster's bondsmen and the principal assistant of this postoffice, together with a lot of others are surrounding this office and doing their mailing at another office, on account of a little malice. Evidence can be produced that these parties made their brags that they would never mail anything else at this office."—Reader, Ga. [It has effected.]

There is no law on the subject. The Postoffice department, however, has in certain former cases of this kind, abolished the office, where a number in the community refused to patronize it, and thus they were compelled to go several miles for mail. The conduct of such men is supremely bigoted and silly, and makes one blush that any American could act so.

Rural Mail Boxes.

"Our mail carrier on the rural route says we are compelled by law to put up a metal mail box, and that a wooden box will not do. Is this the case, or is it a scheme to sell mail boxes? He has mail boxes to sell."—Subscriber, Ottawa, Kan.

"I see by The Blade of January 31, that the question was asked, does the United States require a certain kind of mail box? I say it does. I am on a rural route, and the United States required me to buy a metal mail box with 'U. S. M.' printed on the side of it, and charged every subscriber $3.50 a box or they won't deliver any mail to him. They are of uniform size and a key for the box is furnished."—G. A. W., Ottumwa, Iowa.

When rural free delivery was first established, the government allowed persons to put up any kind of box they desired, so it was safe and weather proof. Since that the department has issued an order requiring metal boxes. There are fourteen different styles, ranging in price from $1 to $3.50 each. It is expected the patrons on the route will agree upon the pattern they desire, that all the boxes on a route may be uniform, as are the street letter boxes in cities. Carriers are not allowed to dictate what box shall be used on a route. If a carrier tries that, make formal complaint to "Hon. A. W. Machen, Supt. Free Delivery, Postoffice Department, Washington, D. C."

Miscellaneous.

R. M. J., Monterey, Ind.: Sorry, but we can not.

P. J. D., Clackamas, Ore.: The names you give are of characters in an old war story. They never existed. The story is a work of fiction.

J. C. W., Daleville, Ind.: We have not noted when the 45th U. S. V., was ordered home, but as the 46th left Manila on April 24, the 45th should have preceded it.

J. F. S. E., Belden, Pa.: In the Bureau of Weekly Blade of February 1 you will find the republic of San Marino described The answer of January 17, regarding John Howard Payne is correct in every particular. The statements are from his biography. Your friend has the story mixed.

K. H., Woodburn, Ore.: There is no office known as the "government chart office." If you will explain what it is you want, we will try to give the proper address. We can not print the songs requested, we are sorry to say. One question at a time, please. Read the rules above.

TOMMY'S ESSAY ON THE STOMACH

The stomake is the place where ise-creem, candy, suger buns, pys, sharlot ruses, sodes, and lots of other good things go. i wish I was gronup bekause in a grownup the stomake is about a foot long and about 4 inches akros and has a hole lot of room in which to place things that taste good. The stomake is a queer baglike thing and don't look as if it was of much-akount, but it is because it is the place where all the food is dumped and mixed up with the gasstrick juse which changes it into a grayish fluid called Kime which is carried to every part of the body.

i am glad I have a stomake but I wish the ake had been left out. the stomake is not like a junkshop. And you can't throw any old thing into it and expect it to act as if it liked it is is not good sents to mix isecreem and kake and sode and peenuts and py and candy and sour krout and plumpudding and beefstake and turkey with cranberry sause all together at the same time in the same stomake. If you do there will be trouble, and you will feel as if 17 million Karlile Indians were playing football inside of your middle and you will groan and yell and think you are going to die, and then you will get well and be ready to eat a whole lot more.

A gun went of once and blew a hole in a man's stomach but he did not die and a doctor put a window glass over the hole and then put some food in the stomake and sat down and watched to see what the stomake did with the food that is how we know so much about the stomake. i think it was real kind of the man to let the doctor do this. Doctors know a hole lot more a bout the stomake and so do i but it is never wise to tell all one knows at one time and so i will stop.—New York Herald.

Chinese Witness Confounds a Lawyer

Some time ago a well-known San Francisco attorney, who prides himself upon his handling of Chinese witnesses, was defending a railway damage case. Instead of following the usual questions as to name, residence, if the nature of an oath were understood, etc., he began: "What your name?"

"Kee Lung."

"You live in San Francisco?"

"Yes."

"Yes, I sabbie God?"

"Mr. Attorney, if you mean 'Do I understand the entity of our Creator'? I will simply say that Thursday evening next I shall address the State Ministerial Association on the subject of the 'Divinity of Christ,' and shall be pleased to have you attend."

Needless to say a general roar of laughter swept over the courtroom at this clever rally, and it was some minutes, much to the discomfiture of the lawyer for the defense, before order was restored and the examination proceeded upon ordinary lines.

And Put More Briefly.

"How did you like my sermon this morning?" asked the Rev. Dr. Forthley.

"Well," replied the candid communicant, "there was one part of it that I thought you might have brought more to the front."

"What was that?"

"The peroration."—Philadelphia Press.

Ignores the Dollars.

"Woman, unlike man, doesn't worship the almighty dolar," said the scornful miss.

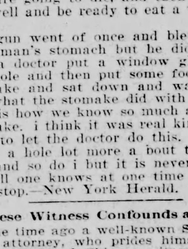
"No," admitted the cynical individual, "her divinity is the almighty 99 cents."—Philadelphia Record.

Quite Late.

"Is your geography an up-to-date work?" we asked the agent, telling him that many recent changes had made old geographies valueless.

"It was issued just after breakfast this morning, sir," he protested, "immediately after receiving the latest news from China."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Weak Men



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"CALTHOS" is a French discovery by Prof. Jules Laborde, famed in Paris as France's foremost specialist.

"CALTHOS" is the only remedy recognized by the medical profession as a specific cure for weak men.

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PERSONAL MAGNETISM

A College, Chartered Under State Laws, With a Capital of $100,000, for the Purpose of Teaching Personal Magnetism and Hypnotism by Correspondence.

EVERYBODY MAY NOW LEARN

Ten Thousand Copies of a Valuable Work on These Sciences to Be Given Away to Advertise the College.

The American College of Sciences, of Philadelphia, Pa., is a novel institution. It is chartered under state laws, with a capital of $100,000, for the purpose of teaching Personal Magnetism, Hypnotism, Magnetic Healing, etc., by correspondence.

At an expense of over $5,000.00 the college has issued a remarkable work on these sciences, ten thousand copies of which will be given away absolutely free. The book is elegantly illustrated with the most expensive photo engravings, and it is decidedly the finest and most comprehensive work of its kind ever published. It is the product of the combined talent of thirty distinguished hypnotic specialists and scientists. It thoroughly explains all the hidden secrets of Personal Magnetism, Hypnotism, Magnetic Healing, etc. It is full of surprising experiences, and makes many startling disclosures in regard to the use and possibilities of this secret power.

The college absolutely guarantees that any one can learn these sciences in a few days at home, and use the power without the knowledge of his most intimate friends.

The reporter asked for the names and addresses of some of the pupils so that he might communicate with them personally. Several hundred were offered, from which the reporter selected eighty-four. The replies received were more than sufficient to convince the most skeptical in regard to the wonderful benefits to be derived from this mighty power. There were absolutely no failures. All had learned to make practical use of the sciences. The following extracts are taken at random from the letters, for the benefit of readers:

J. H. Schneller, 1412 Avon St., La Crosse, Wis., writes: "Hypnotism truly reveals the secrets of life and the mysteries of nature. My own father could not have convinced me of its wonderful power if I had not actually tested it for myself. Consider a knowledge of it invaluable to those who wish to get the most out of life; to those who wish to achieve success and live up to the full measure of their possibilities."

Mrs. Effie M. Watson, Martinsville, Ind., writes: "Hypnotism opens the road to health, happiness and prosperity. It should be studied by everyone. I would not part with my knowledge if I could not procure it. The instructions have developed within me a force of character, an ability to influence and control people that I did not deem I could acquire."

J. W. Clinger, M. D., Springfield, O., writes: "I have used the methods of hypnotism taught by the American College of Sciences in two cases of difficult surgical operations with perfect success. It is a wonderful anæsthetic, and far preferable to chloroform or ether. I acquired a practical knowledge of hypnotism in less than three days. The book is grand."

Rev. T. W. Slutter, Idaho City, Boise, Idaho, writes: "I have cured a number of chronic cases of rheumatism, dyspepsia and paralysis of long standing; have not had a single failure. I consider a knowledge of Personal Magnetism invaluable. The book has greatly increased my own powers."

Dr. W. P. Kennicutt, 529 State St., Binghamton, N. Y., writes: "I had long suffered with a severe prostration and dyspepsia. My case baffled all medical skill. I studied hypnotism from the American College of Science, and tried it upon myself with surprising results. In one week my stomach was better than it had been in thirty years. I could eat anything without the slightest distress. I can hypnotize myself in five minutes and sleep all night, have hypnotized a number of others."

The first ten thousand persons who write to the American College of Sciences will receive absolutely free the marvelous book that brought success to the above persons, as well as hundreds of others. It is intensely interesting from start to finish. It should be in every home. If you want a copy, write to-day to the American College of Sciences, Dept. T. A. 15, 416-420 Walnut st., Philadelphia, Pa., and you will receive the book by return mail.

MAYOR HARRISON IN THE FIELD FOR 1904

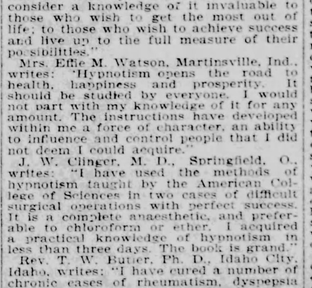
Realizing that Mayor Harrison wishes that his position in regard to the fight for the Democratic nomination for President in 1904 should remain a puzzle, friends of the mayor have announced his candidacy in a rebus, says the Chicago Chronicle. Buttons bearing the name of the mayor, or, rather, pictures suggesting the name and the legend "For President 1904," have circulated in the city hall.

Four pictures, and one letter form the puzzle. A one drawn in the center of the button separates the pictures forming the name Carter Harrison. Above this line is a picture of a dump cart, the tongue of which runs through an upright letter R. The picture and the letter taken together suggest "Cart-R." Less intelligible to the voters is the group of pictures suggesting the mayor's surname. When the button was first shown to city hall employes there was some doubt about the rebus.

"What's this 'Rabbiti-moon' for President?" said one man who holds his office through the grace of the mayor. "Who is he? I never heard of him before."

It took considerable argument to convince the officeholder that the picture which he had declared was that of a rabbit was meant to represent a hare, and that which he believed to be a likeness of the moon was that of the sun.

Nearly 100 buttons were distributed among the employes in the city hall. No one appeared to know who was responsible for them.



Proof of Chicago's Good Taste.

"Well, at all events," said Mrs. Kenwood, "I'm glad that Gainsborough picture was found here in Chicago."

"Why? Surely it's no credit to Chicago to have such things happen."

"It isn't, isn't it? Well, I guess! It shows that we appreciate fine art so much here that we are ready to go out and steal it, and that we know how to pick a good thing when we get a chance, too!"—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Sunday School.

Sunday school lesson for May 12: The Great Commission (Matt. xxviii:16-20). By J. E. Gilbert, D. D., Secretary of the American Society of Religious Education.

INTRODUCTION.—It should be remembered that the life of Jesus Christ in this world had constant reference to the welfare of men. He taught and acted for the good of others. He was so filled with the spirit of benevolence that He planned to be a blessing after leaving the world. It was for this purpose that He selected a company of disciples, that He gathered them together and instructed them for nearly three years, that they might be His witnesses and representatives, that in fact He might perpetuate Himself and enlarge His work by them. This plan shaped His course of procedure. He left many things undone for them to do. His post-resurrection work and influence were all directed to them. We have seen how by different methods at various times He came to convince certain persons and bring them into fullest sympathy with His purposes. The women, the two journeying to Emmaus, the ten in the upper room, Thomas, the doubter, and Peter, the fisherman, were all addressed in a manner suited to their dispositions. We shall now consider in what terms and spirit He sent out these men to their lifework.

RETREAT.—It is probable that the events by the sea-shore studied last week preceded what we are now to consider, although on that point we may not be positive. If so it prepared for the later interview. The eleven disciples appeared to be separated from the larger body of followers, and they retired together to one of the mountains of Galilee, that section that had been so dear to Jesus through His ministry. No one knows what mountain was selected for this retreat, although many conjectures have been made concerning it. The greater number think it was the same as that on which the sermon was delivered (Matt. v:1). They resorted thither in obedience to an appointment which Jesus had made, possibly at the sea but not recorded, but certainly anticipated in His remark (Matt. xxvi:32), and promised through the women (Verse 10). The mountains were frequently chosen by men in Scriptural times for spiritual purposes, as Sinai, Hermon, Olivet. The pure atmosphere, the holy quiet, the deep solitude, the inspiring grandeur of such places is well known.

WORSHIP.—The given sought the place first and Jesus came afterward. They fulfilled His command and found their reward. And when they saw Him they worshipped. Was there some unusual splendor encircling His brow as some have suggested? Did His glory beam forth from His person as on a few other occasions, notably when Moses and Elias came to talk with Him (Matt. xvii:2)? These question, arising spontaneously in the mind, cannot be answered. The historian only makes us know that by some method either physical or psychical the disciples were brought to a reverent spirit. For a long time they had seen and heard the matchless Teacher and witnessed His wonderful deeds, only at intervals recognizing His true character (Matt. xvi:16), but more frequently thinking of Him as a temporal prince who would bestow favors (Mark ix:34). Now they are convinced that He is indeed a Divine person, the promised Messiah who would set up a spiritual kingdom, and they offer the homage which was due to one of such exalted nature and station.

DOUBT.—It is exceedingly difficult to bring a company of men into a common thought and purpose. The more honest they are the greater will be the difficulty. Each must move in his own way, some slowly and cautiously, others quickly and boldly. These differences in the Christian church have risen less from an evil spirit than from a desire to be right. And it seems that in this small band of eleven there was not perfect unanimity of sentiment. "Some doubted," the text declares. Great frankness prompted the writer, who was one of them, to make the confession. The statement is valuable because it shows that even then there was such integrity among them that they were following their convictions. But why did they doubt? Some may have thought that he who had appeared was a disembodied spirit and not the real Jesus with His own body. Belief in ghosts was common (Mark 6:49), and it was vastly easier, therefore, to conclude that a spirit appeared than that a body of flesh and bone had come to life. Others may have questioned, even admitting that Jesus was with them alive, whether He were Divine, and therefore worthy to receive worship paid only to God (Ex. 20:3). POWER.—Jesus did not forsake the disciples, neither did He reprove them, because part of them believed while part doubted. Nor yet did He separate the parties, rejecting one and retaining the other. He knew that all were students in His school, some having made less progress but destined to graduate with honor, and He dealt appropriate **places.** Peter speaks to the whole company, delivering the same message to all, another lesson indeed, an advanced truth in which the truth previously uttered might find new significance. He declared that all power in heaven and earth had been given to Him. The assertion startles us even now, and must have been received with amazement by that little band. Believers as well as unbelievers in Christ had taken full possession of all that He had before the foundation of the world (John 27:5). What had been temporarily laid aside in His humiliation had been restored to Him as the God-man (Luke 24:26). This truth was intended to be the basis of what the Savior was about to say further to the disciples. He desired them to know that He now had authority which He could exercise.

TEACHING.—What will this mighty one set these eleven men to do? There need be no limitation in His orders except that which the circumstances, for none may restrain the Almighty. Shall they organize armies or governments? Shall they form institutions and establish movements by force? They were directed to teach, to unfold what Jesus had taught, to urge men to live according to what He taught. They were to rely wholly upon the truth, expecting no victories save those that came by persuasion and instruction. They were to appeal to men as rational and free and ask them to accept what the Master gave, and leave all free to accept or reject. They were to desire only that truth should be a transforming power in the lives of men (John 8:32). They were not to wait until men came to them, but they were to go forth, anxious to carry the truth to those who do not come to it, who perhaps have never heard of it, who might never hear it unless some one brought it (Rom. 10:14). They were to go everywhere, to all nations and peoples. For the first time a universal religion is ordered. Such was the duty enjoined. Not enthusiasts, not orators, not rhetoricians, but teachers these men were to be, teachers going to the whole world.

BAPTISM.—The commission to teach presented a high calling. None could be more honorable or useful. He who teaches another must be a student (Rom. ii:21), and of such himself. But Jesus had another duty to be laid upon his disciples. They must baptize. Nothing is said here concerning the mode, and each must therefore determine for himself this question which has caused so much dispute. That baptism was to be in three names, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. But why baptize? Why not be content with teaching? Because it was necessary to give unity to the teaching. The broad field of Christ's thought must find its center in these three great truths pertaining to the Godhead (1 Cor. viii:6). 2. The teaching does not only correct living but a correct faith, and that faith declared to men, coming to its fulness by such declaration made in baptism (Mark xvi:16). Life and faith, symbolized in an ordinance, would constitute a company, the church held together for united service. Jesus had previously expressed his purpose to build this church (Matt. xvi:18).

PRESENCE.—Jesus had thus prescribed a very simple mode of establishing his kingdom through his disciples after his departure. He would make individual converts in all lands. He should confess faith in a tri-une God and unite them in a society to observe all his teachings. He had preceded his instructions by the announcement of his power or authority. He followed by a promise of constant spiritual truth. He would be with them always. They would never be left to themselves, to the weariness, doubt and fear that must come to the solitary worker. Though unseen, he would be their companion as they sailed over the seas, as they stood in the synagogues of the cities, as they spoke in the country by the way side, as they encountered hard ships and perils, as they were persecuted by enemies, as they were misunderstood or forsaken by friends. Always, under every circumstance, they might constantly expect him to be near. It is hardly probable that then the disciples fully understood what was meant, but they afterwards did understand (Acts xviii:9).

REFLECTIONS.—It is always well for those who love Jesus to meet according to appointment, and there ought to be some favorite spot to which he and they repair (Ex. xx:24). 2. Let none be alarmed when believers are not fully agreed, provided their differences are held in all honesty and charity. It may occur that these differences shall work for good, in larger views of truth and broader service (Acts xv:39). 3. The power of Christ is the disciples' sure support. What he orders one may safely attempt. Where he directs one may trustfully go. The chief instrument in all right service for Jesus is the truth. He wants none but converts, those who heartily accept the truth and conform their lives to it. 4. True converts to Christ must confess the three names and enter the household to become members of the great body, no longer separated to individual plans. 5. It is not here asserted but we may rightly infer that the great commission applies to every one who would be all believers to build the Lord's house (Rev. xxii:17). The power will never fail, the presence will never depart.

THOUSANDS HAVE KIDNEY TROUBLE AND DON'T KNOW IT

To Prove what Swamp-Root, the Great Kidney Remedy, Will Do for YOU, Every Reader of the Blade May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Free by Mail.

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Your other organs may need attention—but your kidneys most, because they do most and need attention first.

If you are sick or "feel badly," begin taking Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy, because as soon as your kidneys are well they will help all the other organs to health. A trial will convince anyone.

The mild and immediate effect of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root the great kidney and bladder remedy, is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures and the best proof of this is a trial.

14 WEST 117th ST., NEW YORK CITY.
DEAR SIR: OCT. 18th, 1900.

"I had been suffering severely from kidney trouble. All symptoms pointed to Bright's disease. My strength and power had left me, I could hardly drag myself along. Even my mental capability was giving out, and often I wished to die. It was then I saw an advertisement of yours in a New York paper, but would not have paid any attention to it, had it not promised a sworn guarantee with every bottle of your remedy. Seeing that your Swamp-Root is purely vegetable, and does not contain any harmful drugs, I am seventy years and over, I decided to write you, with a good result. I can recommend Swamp-Root to all sufferers from kidney troubles. Four members of my family have been using Swamp-Root for four different kidney diseases, and all speak highly of its results. With many thanks to you, I remain,

Very truly yours,
ROBERT BEYER.

You may have a sample bottle of this famous kidney remedy, Swamp-Root, sent free by mail, prepaid. The value and success of this great remedy is proven by the many hundreds of testimonial letters received from men and women cured. In writing, be sure to say that you read this generous offer in the Toledo Weekly Blade.

EDITORIAL NOTICE.—If you have the slightest symptoms of kidney or bladder trouble, or if there is a trace of it in your family history, send at once to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., who will gladly tell you all about Swamp-Root and a book containing many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women cured. In writing, be sure to say that you read this generous offer in the Toledo Weekly Blade.

NEW PROOF THAT BACON WROTE SHAKESPEARE

Edwin Bormann has just published what he claims to be newly discovered proof that Bacon wrote Shakespeare. The author points out that in the dedication of "Lucrece," the Bard of Avon signs himself

"Yours in all duety,
"William Shakespeare."

Bormann reasons that "duety" (duties) means duality, a something composed of two persons, a Shakespeare duitas. He then argues that the first sentence of the dedication explains what is meant by this duality. That sentence reads:

"The love I dedicate to your Lordship is without end; wherefore this Pamphlet without beginning is but a superfluous Moity."

That is, Shakespeare makes "superfluous" mention of a "beginning" an "end" and a "superfluous half," and it follows, says the savant, that

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1901.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE .....Editor.

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Circulation Last Week. 155,000

TO CLUB AGENTS.

We are now prepared to furnish special yearly rates for The Weekly Blade, to those who desire to raise us clubs. We desire clubs early this year, and to that end we make our most favorable terms now. We have discontinued our campaign offer, and solicit yearly subscriptions only.

ALABAMA DISFRANCHISEMENT.

On April 23, Alabama held an election to vote upon the question of calling a convention to amend the state constitution. The proposition carried by a heavy majority, and the convention will meet on May 21. Its main purpose is to disfranchise the greater portion of the negro voters without excluding any whites; and this will be done by the adoption of an educational test, with a "grandfather" clause. Mississippi, South Carolina, Louisiana, North Carolina and Maryland have already adopted an educational restriction. Alabama is tthe sixth in line, and Virginia will soon be the seventh.

Any state has the right to establish an educational test for voters, and there would be little or no objection to such a provision were it enforced upon all illiterates alike, without regard to color. All of the states which have adopted such a qualification, except Mississippi and Maryland, have added a provision, excepting from this test all who were "citizens" of that or any other state on a given date; and their descendants. The date chosen is one before the adoption of the Fourteenth amendment to the national constitution, which conferred citizenship on the negro. As no negro was a "citizen" on the date fixed, only white illiterates are benefited by it. They are thus given the right to vote, while colored illiterates are excluded.

The question arises whether this "grandfather clause" is or is not a violation of the Fourteenth amendment. The Southern Democrats declare it is not. It is strange that some colored man who has been denied the right to vote under its provisions has not brought suit to test the matter, in the Supreme court of the United States. Some time ago a news item went the rounds that contributions of money were being raised to employ counsel and bring such a suit, but nothing has been heard of it for some time.

EDUCATION IN ROAD MAKING.

Nothing has given such an impulse to the movement in favor of good roads as the rural free delivery mail system. The farmers are all eager to have these routes, and the postoffice department has made it a rule that they will be established only on roads that are reasonably good. Applications have been rejected where the highways are practically impassable during the winter months. This has been a powerful supplement to the agitation begun several years ago by the National Good Roads association.

That body holds its next annual meeting at New Orleans on April 29. A novel adjunct of that gathering will be practical instruction in road-making. The association equipped at Chicago a railway train with all the machinery necessary, and placed it under the charge of Charles T. Harrison, of the road inquiry division of the Department of Agriculture. It made its first stop on its way from Chicago to New Orleans at Flossmoor, Ill., where a section 1,000 feet long of a typical prairie earth road was improved, as an object-lesson to the people of that vicinity.

Ample drainage ditches were cut on each side; then a grader was put to work, the foundation leveled and given a convex surface, that the water may run off easily. Dump-carts with hinged bottoms were then employed to spread a six-inch layer of furnace slag, which was rolled until it became a hard and compact mass. On this was deposited crushed limestone, which was rolled until it was a compact layer five inches thick. Then the train started for New Orleans, where it will be employed in building a model road one mile in length, before the association meets.

In the matter of improved roads, the United States is behind all other countries. Our people have never realized the great advantage of good thoroughfares. Especially have the farming communities failed to see that good roads are a first-class investment. They increase the value of land, prevent that isolation which is so great a drawback to rural life for so many people, and add directly to the profits of farmers by enabling them to market their crops at any time of year, instead of compelling them to sell while the roads are passable, before the fall rains turn them into fathomless quagmires. The era of road improvement has set in, and within the first decade of the new century, we shall see more road improvement than in the half-century preceding.

Mrs. Langtry's new London theatre is the talk of England because of its beauty and richness. Mrs. Langtry frankly admits that its charming effects she copied from the Valentine theatre, in this city. If Londoners will come to Toledo they will discover many ideas which, if followed out, would greatly enhance the beauty of the world's metropolis.

The drink bill of the United States last year was more than a billion and 50 millions of dollars, or nearly $14 per capita. Now suppose every man, woman and child would resolve to let some other person drink his or her $14 worth what a wonderful change would result! And what a beneficial change!

THE PRESIDENT'S TOUR.

On Monday the President started on his tour over the United States—or, rather, over the continental portion of our country. It will be the longest tour ever undertaken by any Chief Executive while in office. The party will traverse 10,500 miles, and be on the road about six weeks. Sweeping to the southwestward from Washington, the route will almost touch the Gulf of Mexico at New Orleans. Thence westward the President will reach the Mexican boundary line at El Paso, and the Pacific at Los Angeles and San Francisco.

There the party will be present at the launching of the battleship Ohio, named for the President's native state—the event which was the immediate reason for the trip. From that city the party will go northward to Portland, and then return through the northern tier of states. The original intention was simply to cross the continent by the direct route to attend the launching, and then return at once; but invitations poured in upon the President from every section of the country, and the extension of the itinerary was the consequence.

The business of the government will not suffer, however, because of the President's absence from the capital. The telegraph keeps him in touch with Washington at every point on his journey. The special train in which he travels. The most of the cabinet accompany the President, but Secretaries Hay and Root, whose departments are the most important, remain in Washington. They will be able to consult the Chief Magistrate at any time, and the affairs of the government will be as promptly and efficiently discharged as though the personnel of the government were in Washington, instead of traversing the continent on wheels. In this respect this tour will be without previous parallel in our history.

CHICAGO A SEAPORT.

Chicago now plumes herself upon being a seaport. On April 25 the steamship Northwestern started from that city through the Great Lakes, the Canadian canals and the St. Lawrence river, with a cargo direct for Liverpool. On the 26th the Northman left for Hamburg, Germany, by the same route. Later, two other vessels will start from Chicago on transatlantic trips, thus establishing a regular line between that city and Europe.

The Northwestern has a partial cargo of provisions and harvesting machinery for Europe, and 50,000 bushels of grain. The latter will be unloaded at Buffalo, thus lightening her so that she will have no difficulty in getting through the Welland canal. At Montreal she will take on other freight, making a full cargo for Liverpool. She is expected to reach that port on May 16, and to arrive at Chicago on her return trip on June 13.

The only difficulty in direct trade between any lake port and Europe is that of passing through the Canadian canals. Had it not been for this, regular lines would have been established long ago. The present arrangement is experimental, for it remains to be seen whether the saving in handling by the direct line will offset the heavy expenses incurred in the navigation of the new route. The Welland canal tolls are two cents per ton; the pilotage through the St. Lawrence will cost $100, and the cost of insurance in the passage of that river will be heavy.

The four boats of the new line are as large as can pass the Welland canal, and their total cost is one million dollars. The company which is making the experiment of direct freight traffic between Chicago and Europe is determined to give it a thorough trial, and every progressive American hopes success will crown the effort.

THAT TRIP TO THE PHILIPPINES

The 100 congressmen who are going to the Philippines this summer will accumulate valuable material for time-consuming speeches in Washington next winter.—Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

Our esteemed Rochester contemporary is in error. The men who go on that trip of observation to the Philippines will accummulate valuable material; but it will not be used for "time-consuming" speeches. The latter will be made by the fellows who prefer to theorize about the conditions, instead of informing themselves at first hand.

The trip to the Philippines is not a government "junket"—not a mere excursion for pleasure. It was proposed by several hard-working members of the House, who feel that a personal knowledge of the islands will conduce to intelligent action next winter, when Congress will probably perfect a permanent form of civil government for the islands. That nearly one-third of the total membership will go on this long and wearisome journey speaks volumes for their honest devotion to public duty. The members will go at their own expense, except that they will have a free voyage from San Francisco on a government transport. It will require three or four months' time, and many will doubtless go at a personal pecuniary sacrifice. They should be commended by the press of the United States, rather than be made the subjects of stupid jesting.

THAT TEXAS OIL.

The great Beaumont oil filed in Texas must have a great effect upon the business in the United States, especially as regards fuel oil. It is stated in a recently prepared government article that the first three wells, giving them but one-third the production nominally accorded them, produce as much oil as 37,000 wells in the east, and that their daily capacity is one-half the entire production of the United States. These statements were made as to the first three wells. There are now more coming in almost daily, and the possible output of the field will be much greater.

The fuel oil production of the entire world was something like 378,000 barrels per day before the Beaumont wells were struck. This total will speedily be doubled. This enormous addition to the supply of fuel oil will probably reduce its price, and stimulate its use as a fuel, especially in localities where coal is dear. There is a wide field for successful invention in the way of better burners, and the Yankee inventive talent should speedily meet the demand now made upon it.

With the United States capturing the markets of the world under a protective tariff, and Great Britain abandoning free trade, the textbooks on political economy will have to be rewritten.

Wilhelmina probably loves her husband dearly, but she draws the line at the payment of his bachelor debts.

THE CUBAN DELEGATION.

The Cuban commissioners from the constitutional convention have come and gone. They found what they probably knew before—that the President has not the power to annul nor modify a law enacted by Congress. Probably they realized this before they started. But they learned one thing more—and a very important thing from their standpoint. It is, the absolute assurance that the United States government will make no effort to annex Cuba—so long, at least, as the administration of President McKinley is in power.

This, it is now revealed, was the real object of their mission. The Cubans are enamored of complete independence. They at least desire to try "going it alone." Even the best informed among them have had a haunting fear that Uncle Sam might never relax the grip he took when he kicked the Spaniard out of the New World, and took Cuba under his protecting care.

We Americans know how little basis there was and is for any such idea. The Cuban commissioners have gone back with their minds at rest on that score; and, better still, after a full and free discussion of every phase of the relations between Cuba and the United States, they have been won over to see that the conditions of the Platt amendment are wise and advantageous, and they will press their acceptance upon their fellow-delegates to the Cuban constitutional convention.

Furthermore, they have learned with surprise that the language of the Platt amendment had been so framed and phrased as to commit the party in power in the United States against the annexation of the island. They now realize that their safety from annexation lies in the acceptance of the conditions therein set down; for so long as it is the law of this land, and its provisions a part of the constitution of Cuba, annexation is impossible. We may now look for an acceptance by the Cubans as soon as the commissioners have time to explain the situation, and full discussion has made the facts clear to the convention.

THE BOOM IN STOCKS.

And still the boom in stocks continues. Yesterday, and probably to-day, there were enormous sales to realize profits, yet prices do not sag materially. This simply means that the public is buying—some for investment and some for speculation, of course—and this demand is so strong that selling for profit-taking does not depress prices materially.

The rise in the market values of stocks since 1896 has been phenomenal. On August 8, 1896, the average price of the twenty pricipal railway stocks was 41.82—that is, every $100 share averaged $41.82 in value. On June 23, 1900, the average of the same stocks was 72.99. On January 3 of this year the average stood at 92.66. On Saturday, April 20, the average had risen to 112.68. That is to say, the average advance is about 30 per cent. in less than five years.

Much of this advance is perfectly legitimate. It is due to the fact that prosperity is with us, and the railroads are consequently doing an enormous business. They are making money, and their stocks are consequently worth more, because they pay larger dividends, or from non-paying have become paying stocks. However, the recent advances have been largely speculative. The dealers have been anticipating the future. They have discounted fully one year in the future of good crops, expanding trade and increased prosperity.

When once the solid ground has been left, and the market is banking entirely on the future, a reaction is sure to come sooner or later. A drop in values—and a very sharp one—is sure to come; but so long as business is up to its present level a crash in stocks will probably harm no one but the "lambs" who have ventured into Wall street. For there is no speculation in ordinary trade channels. Business is progressing finely, and on a legitimate basis. In fact, conditions were never so good as they now are. Our people are proportionately less in debt than for many years; they have more property and more money. The bank clearings tell the story of superb trade in all lines of business. Last week they were 76.6 per cent. larger than for the corresponding week in 1900—an increase of three-fourths in one year. Interest rates were never so low, collections were never better, and there is such a lifting of mortgages all over the country as has not been within the experience of the present generation.

IN THE PHILIPPINES.

An insurgent leader named Cailles, but who is more brigand than insurrecto, has declared himself to be the successor of Aguinaldo as commander in chief. Of course, this is simply assumption, and his claiming the authority does not give it to him. He has made overtures in the past to surrender on condition that he receive full amnesty for his past misdeeds, and this Gen. MacArthur would not grant, as Cailles has transgressed all the laws of civilized warfare by committing atrocious murders, for which he must stand trial when he is captured.

The chase after him is getting very warm. His camp was surprised a few days ago, his staff and his private papers and effects captured, but he escaped in the jungle. The pursuit will be kept up, and he will eventually be run to earth, if not killed in battle.

A CUTE GUESS.

The bubble-blowers in Washington news circles are beginning to forecast the decision of the Supreme court in the insular cases. One of them states, giving an unnamed "member of Congress" as authority, that five of the nine justices have agreed upon a decision that Congress has a right to tax Porto Rican goods coming to the United States, but has no right to order a tax on goods from the United States landed in Porto Rico, because such a tariff is in the nature of an export tax, which is forbidden by the constitution.

That is quite an ingenious guess, but it is palpably based on the recent decision as to the stamp tax on export bills of lading. It is an attempt to support the attitude of the administration toward an insular possession, and make it square with that decision. But it is nothing more than a guess. The members of the supreme court are very shy of giving intimations as to a coming decision, especially so important a one as this.

Florida has just made insanity a legal ground for divorce. Young people down there who are crazy to marry may take advantage of this provision after a few years.

COMMERCE WITH CHINA.

The negotiations now in progress at Pekin are the most important that the world has seen for many years. They include the opening of the vast interior of the mighty empire to foreign trade. The European nations are each eager to obtain concessions that will give its trade an advantage; the United States urges the "open door"—that this trade be granted on equal terms to all countries.

The importance of this lies in the fact that the trade with the hitherto sealed interior of China will be the leading factor is deciding the struggle of the twentieth century for the supremacy in the world's commerce. The United States has now a commercial outpost in the Philippines, fronting China and her great ports. The acquisition of that archipelago has placed an American gangplank across the broad Pacific, with its end 600 miles from this mighty future market.

Our trade conquests in all other parts of the world make it certain that, if the "open door" prevails, and we thus share the Chinese trade on equal terms with all other commercial countries, we will obtain the lion's share. Secretary Hay gained an important advantage when he obtained the signatures of all the powers concerned in the Chinese question to a joint note, in which they each and all disclaim any intention of negotiating private treaties with China—such as Russia undertook in its attempt to secure the title to Manchuria. He will insist upon the application of this principle in the negotiations concerning commercial rights, and the abolition of exacting taxes, which have acted as a bar to foreign trade.

BRYAN FOR GOVERNOR.

The New York Sun suspects that Mr. Bryan's paper is not fulfilling its mission of keeping him to the front, the political cynosure of the popular eye. Quite right. It is noticeable that extracts from the Commoner are very scarce in the columns of other newspapers. The exchange editors find in its nothing so new or novel as to be worth reprinting. Even Democratic newspapers ignore Mr. Bryan's ponderous paragraphs and columnal platitudes.

So that gentleman is thinking of being the fusion candidate for governor next year. This fall Nebraska elects only minor state officers, but the fusionists propose straining every nerve to elect their ticket in order to pave the way for Bryan a twelvemonth later. The Republicans carried the state last November against the fusion ticket by only 861 plurality, and the Bryanites think they can recapture it this off year by proper organization and hard work.

The most potent ally the Republicans will have, however, is the exceptional prosperity of the farmers. Even in Nebraska the logic of facts must make its way among the sturdy agricultural population. Then, too, they are tired of Bryan. They have seen his leading theories shown to be fallacies, and they are not enamored of his continual efforts to get something. We shall look with interest to the development of the Bryan campaign in that state.

HAVANA'S HEALTH.

The Blade has just received the monthly report of the United States official at the head of the sanitation of Havana for March. It shows clearly the remarkable results which have been achieved by proper attention to the sanitary conditions of that city. The total death rate for the month was 26.28 per thousand, which is lower than for many years.

The especial point of interest in the report is the condition regarding yellow fever. There were but four cases and one death; and during the last week of the month the city was entirely free of the disease. The immunity from an epidemic is believed to have been largely due to the systematic crusade against the mosquitoes, which are now known to be the carriers of yellow fever.

The island of Cuba has been for many years a disease center, and a constant menace every summer to the southern states of the Union. It is this fact which led the government to introduce the most thorough sanitation of all Cuban ports, as soon as our occupancy of the island gave us the opportunity. If the Cubans will continue the work on the same energetic lines, yellow fever will be entirely stamped out, and our temporary control of Cuba will be of great benefit to the health of the United States as well as of the island itself.

THAT BRITISH LOAN.

American investors are to take fifty millions of the new British bonds, which bear 2¾ per cent interest. The market price is 94. This makes the investment bear nearly 3 per cent interest. United States 2 per cent bonds are quoted at 106. Hence a man gets a larger return from an investment in English bonds, and doubtless this is why the superabundant capital in the United States is attracted by them.

The bulk of the enormous trade balance due the United States is carried in the form of loans of one kind or another. We have an ample supply of gold, and there is no reason we should draw on European reserves to add to it. Interest rates are higher across the Atlantic than here, hence the men to whom cash on trade balances is due loan it there, rather than compel the exportation of gold from Europe to pay themselves. Probably the entire 50 million dollars invested in British bonds will be taken up in this way, without any gold going to England to pay for them.

For many years, a bill to legalize marriage between a man and his deceased wife's sister has been passed by the English House of Commons, and as regularly been defeated by the House of Lords. The bill is now up, and the same result will follow. Each time it gets greater support in the Commons, and the time will come when it will pass the Lords. Why there should be any legal impediment to such an union is difficult to understand; but the opponents of the bill declare it is a violation of divine law, and to pass it will "destroy the framework of civilization." All of which is bosh.

The accord between France and Russia in the Far East has another illustration in the taking of a Korean loan by France. This move outgenerals Japan; for if the loan is not objected to by the other European powers, it means their assent to an understanding between France and Russia that the latter is to predominate in Korean affairs through French influence.

How strange it seems to have the tariff question become a political issue in England, the home of free trade! If anything could demonstrate the growth of the protective policy, it is this fact.

HAVE YOU A FARM TO SELL, TO BUY, OR TO EXCHANGE?

The Blade is constantly asked about farming and timber lands in this or that locality. We cannot answer such questions, because we have not accurate information, as a rule; nor can we print such requests free, as they are really advertising and should be paid for.

There is a larger movement of emigrants westward this spring than for many years. We are fairly deluged with questions about where to buy farms in the West and South.

We have therefore determined to open a special column for those who wish to sell farms, to buy farms, or to exchange farms, at a reduced rate. No advertisement will be accepted from any one but a subscriber to the Weekly Blade. We will not admit into this column any advertisement from land agents, etc. It will be called the "Land Column," and we will print three lines for one dollar for each insertion, cash with the order. This is one-third our regular advertising rate. Here are three sample advertisements, with fictitious names and addresses, so that you can see how many words to put in your advertisement:

FARM FOR SALE—160 acres, part black bottom, part hill, latter timbered; good house and barn, etc. Chas. Miller, Lancaster, Ohio.

WANTED—Farm or timber land in Arkansas or Georgia; must have house and running water. Thos. H. Walton, Belle Center, Ohio.

EXCHANGE OR SALE—Quarter section in Cass Co., Neb. Sod house, 40 broken. W. J. Scrooge, Route 1, Alpena, Neb.

These are merely models. Put all you wish into three lines, of 7 words each—21 words in all. Count numbers and initials each as one word. Thus, the first advertisement contains 21 words; the second, 20; and the third, 21.

Write name and address very plainly, please!

Do not exceed 22 words. Remember, the dollar must come with the order. You can have it inserted more than once, if you wish, at the same rate—two weeks for $2, three weeks for $3, and so on. Address "The Blade, Toledo, Ohio."

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The Cuban Committee.

The Cuban committee has come and gone, and its visit can not fail to have a good moral effect and promote a better understanding of the situation by the visitors. The President is without authority to alter or amend the act of Congress prescribing the terms upon which the United States will relinquish occupation and control of the island, and it was made clear to the committee that nothing in that direction can be done until Congress meets next December. The friendly reception of the committee and the hospitable civilties extended it by the President have gone far to remove undue prejudice and convince it of a sincere interest on the part of this government in the future welfare of Cuba. Upon the return of the committee to Cuba and its report to the convention as to the result of its visit, it will then be for that body either to accept the Platt amendment or to continue the status quo, if it should propose to await the meeting of Congress and endeavor to secure a modification of the terms already prescribed.

New Chinese Board.

The Empress Dowager of China has appointed a board of national administration to relieve her of public functions. By this move she avoids responsibility for what may happen in the future. The make-up of the board does not improve the prospects of an early and satisfactory peace settlement. It is composed of anti-foreign and anti-progressive members.

What England May Do.

It is said to be likely that Great Britain will agree to abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty on a guarantee of neutrality of the Nicaraguan canal. The state department has ascertained the wishes of the majority of the senators on a new treaty. Lord Pauncefote has delayed his departure from Washington and formal negotiations for a new treaty will probably be renewed in the fall

Wilhelmina's Husband.

Duke Henry, who not long ago married Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, has by this time found out his mistake. He should have followed the wise example of Count Boni de Castellane, the Duke of Marlborough and other titled men of impecuniosity, who have been able to replenish their depleted exchequers from their wives' dowers. His honeymoon has barely passed until he has been notified by his prudent Dutch spouse that he need not expect her to pay his debts. This is in very marked contrast to the liberality of American millionaire brides and their fathers, who seem only too happy to respond to all such demands. The effect of this development will no doubt be to create a boom for American heiresses among the titled marriageable men of Europe who happen to be long on pedigrees but short on money.

Aguinaldo's Manifesto.

Aguinaldo's manifesto to his countrymen recognizes, in terms, that the majority of them have declared for a termination of the long struggle in which they have been engaged and have decided to seek peace under the folds of the American flag. In his judgment, those still in arms cannot ignore the wishes of the majority if they are animated by a real desire to serve their country. In recognition of this, and after mature deliberation, the erstwhile leader of the Filipino insurrection announces that he acknowledges and accepts the sovereignty of the United States throughout the Philippine archipelago without any reservation whatever. There can be little doubt that the Philippine problem has been very considerably simplified by the submission of Aguinaldo. The surrenders which have taken place since the issuance of the manifesto, taken in connection with the progress of the Taft commission in organizing civil governments in the islands, indicate that the work of pacification will be appreciably hastened by the events of the past few weeks.

Important Invention.

But a comparatively short time has elapsed since Sir William Crookes caused pronounced surprise and much discussion by anouncing that the areas of the earth that could be devoted to wheat culture were rapidly decreasing, and that unless some means could be discovered of making them produce more wheat than they do now the growing population of the world would within a short time cause consumption to exceed production. At the time this prediction was made Professor Crookes suggested that in the discovery of a method whereby atmospheric nitrogen could be "fixed" lay the panacea for the promised ailment. Reports now indicate that some such method has been found, but the details are yet a secret. It is to be hoped that there is something more than promise conected with this latest development. Should it come to pass that such was the case, mankind would become the possessor of one of the most benign gifts to which the human race has ever fallen heir.

Sixto Lopez Again.

Sixto Lopez told an interviewer at Springfield the other day that he will soon sail for Manila, where he proposes to aid Aguinaldo in organizing the people under American rule. In other words, he intends to be good. But he should be watched, on account of his long association with the Boston malcontents. He may go to Manila and make an effort to forward their plans of rebellion against the government they hate and misrepresent. These malcontents do not appreciate the fact that while shielded by the flag they have encouraged war on the flag, acting in a most despicable manner. Sixto Lopez may well be required to abjure them before he is permitted to go aboard a transport or land in Manila.

England's Coal Tax.

The announcement of an export tax of one shilling per ton on English coal adds interest to the fact that the American product is rapidly invading the markets of the world. The figures of the Treasury Bureau of Statistics indicate that the coal exports of the fiscal year, which ends June 30, will amount to about 8,000,000 tons, as against less than 2,000,000 tons in 1890, 3,772,192 tons in 1895, and 7,188,648 tons in 1900. This export figure is as yet small compared with that of the United Kingdom, or compared with our coal area, which is many times as great as that of any other of the great coal-exporting nations, but the growth in our own case has been much more rapid than that of any other country. The United Kingdom, for instance, exported 30,142,839 tons in 1890 and 46,108,011 tons in 1900, the relative growth being much greater in the case of the United States than in that of the United Kingdom.

Earning Power of Capital.

The Treasury memorandum issued by Secretary Gage in reference to the purchase of some 5 per cent bonds at the present market price again forces attention not only to the high credit of the government, but to the reduced earning power of investment capital, features to which the public give too little thought. According to the secretary, the 5 per cent bonds at the present market price yield an investment return of only 1.03 per cent; the short 4's, 1.61 per cent; the 3 per cents of 1908 yield 1¾ per cent, while the new 2 per cents yield 1.73 per cent, which is the highest rate earned by any United States government bond at the present market prices. With these figures in mind it is easy to see why American investors are absorbing foreign loans, when the British consols are obtainable at a price which will yield 2.87 per cent, while the Russian 4s are obtainable at par.

Current Events.

Cunard Line will install wireless telegraph system by which vessels may be reported when within fifteen hours of their destination.

Son of Senator Voorhees, of Indiana is held for examination on a charge of complicity in the theft of $24. He says it is a case of mistaken identity.

Majority of presbyteries in United States voted in favor of creed revision; subcommittee made public its recommendations to the General Assembly.

Famous battleship Maine will likely be floated in Havana harbor in the autumn.

Judge Dunne, of Chicago, rules that assignment of unearned wages as security for a loan cannot be enforced.

Export grain rates from Chicago to the seaboard are reported to have been cut four cents.

Missouri judge ordered stakeholder to return money wagered on Bryan's election.

Game warden killed illegal fishermen in a fight near Akron, O.

March profits of constituent companies of United States Steel Corporation indicate net earnings of $110,000,000 a year for the big concern—more than trade experts had estimated.

American subscribers to British bond issue expect about $50,000,000 of the issue; exports of gold expected to follow the allotment.

Consolidation of all labor unions into one big organization is the aim of labor men, who head a preliminary meeting at Pittsburg, Pa. May call a national convention in Chicago.

Belief growing that big railway interests are preparing for a war. Failure of presidents to hold meetings considered significant.

Cuban envoys will advise acceptance by the constitutional convention of conditions imposed by United States. Convinced the Washington government will deal honestly with the island.

Secretary Hay to prepare a new canal treaty, which he thinks can be drawn so that it will prove acceptable to Great Britain and the United States.

President ordered Washington relics restored to the Lee family.

Plans for new canal treaty with Great Britain are under way.

Frontier landmarks indicating boundary line between Canada and United States to be replaced. Port of Montreal to be improved and St. Lawrence deepened.

National debts of the world at the close of the nineteenth century aggregate $31,000,000,000, largely due to wars.

Total gold production of the Cripple Creek district exceeds $100,000,000.

Keen rivalry is noted between eastern and western railways for summer tourist traffic.

Cincinnati wife raids saloon with bucket and brush and calcimines husband, saloonkeeper and the fixtures.

State department received satisfactory reports of new gold discoveries in Klondike region.

Colonel M. Barber and Major Oscar F. Long promoted to brigadier generals.

Former Governor Hogg, of Texas, is reported to have cleared $3,000,000 by recent speculation in oil and timber lands at Beaumont.

Passengers in a Pullman car on the Cleveland, Akron and Columbus railroad are exposed to smallpox, the porter being afflicted. All are ordered quarantined.

Cailles, Cailahan acquitted at Omaha of complicity in Cudahy kidnaping. Jurors were given bitter scoring from the bench. One reward for Pat Crowe withdrawn as result of verdict.

CHINA.

Empress dowager's creation of board of regents to rule China is regarded in Washington as a sinister move, the effect of which is to nullify all promises of reform and again imperil the lives of all foreigners in the empire.

Envoys at Pekin rejected American plan to reduce amount of indemnity.

Count von Waldersee reports four severe battles with Chinese troops beyond the great wall, in which the Germans defeated the enemy.

PHILIPPINES.

General Ludlow has been invalided home from the Philippines, attack of grip having developed into dangerous case of tuberculosis.

Americans surprise the camp of General Cailles, the Filipino half-caste, who is offering rewards for the heads of American soldiers, but he escaped. Several of his officers were killed or captured, and he is being closely pursued.

FOREIGN.

Joseph Chamberlain announces Sir Alfred Milner will return to South Africa.

Illness of the shah of Persia is assuming a dangerous form.

Russia completes rearmament of army with new rifles.

Five workmen in French gunworks at Commentry arrested for selling gun secrets to the Polish spy charged with being in the employ of Krupp.

Boer peace meeting at Edinburgh raided by angry Scotchmen. Police called to protect representatives of the Africander bund.

Swiss amateur claims to have discovered method of making photographs in colors.

French workmen reported to have offered to sell artillery secrets to powers.

International exposition at Glasgow, Scotland, will be opened on May 7.

English census returns show that agricultural villages are being depopulated, the people flocking to manufacturing towns and cities.

British sentiment against income tax may lead to overthrow of free trade.

Robert S. McCormick, newly appointed minister to Austro-Hungary, presents his credentials to Emperor Francis Joseph at Budapest.

London has decided to purchase an automobile fire engine, the committee recommending an American machine.

Baron d'Estournelles, French deputy, says Europe must soon again engage in a superhuman struggle with America, Canada and Australia for its commercial, political, social and financial life.

Expected in London that De Beers Mining company will raise price of diamonds.

Marconi companies applied to British postmaster general for charter to establish wireless telegraph system.

Syndicate in Rome proposes to send 20,000 Italians to Brazil, chiefly those who have taken part in recent strikes.

British ministry not likely to be overthrown while war in South Africa continues. Liberals unwilling to charter struggle.

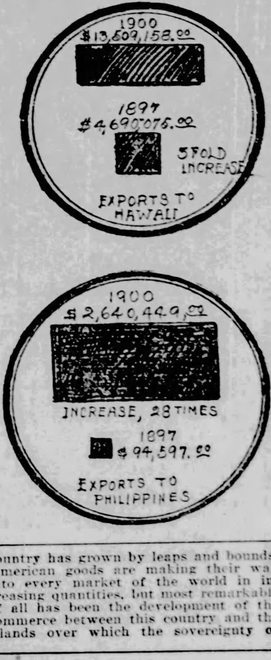
American Express company's office in Paris reported to have been robbed of 2,000 francs by three masked men.

Atlantic union formed in England to promote exchange of social courtesies with Americans.

HOW OUR TRADE FOLLOWS THE FLAG

In another notable instance has thte maxim that "trade follows the flag" been illustrated lately. Spain is suffering from great business depression. She is on the verge of an industrial crisis. Every branch of her trade is suffering from the loss of her colonies. Her exports to Cuba have shrunk from $136,000,000 to $66,000,000; to Porto Rico, from $44,000,000 to $17,000,000. Her total loss in trade during the passing of her last colonial possessions is $123,000,000 a year.

Now look on the American picture. During the three years which have passed since the breaking out of the war with Spain the foreign trade of the



country has grown by leaps and bounds. American goods are making their way into every market of the world in increasing quantities, but most remarkable of all has been the development of the commerce between this country and the islands over which the sovereignty of the United States was extended as a result of the Spanish war. The maxim that "trade follows the flag" has never received a more striking verification.

That trade has followed the flag is shown by the remarkable increases in exports to Cuba, the Philippine Islands, Hawaii and Porto Rico. The total exports to Cuba in 1897 amounted to but $8,250,776, while in 1900 they had grown to $26,513,613. The increase in the exports to the Philippines was in still greater proportions. Before the islands were acquired by the United States American goods were almost unknown—the total value of the exports to the islands being but $94,597 in 1897. The total in 1900 had risen to $2,640,449. The exports to Hawaii grew from $4,690,075 in 1897 to $13,609,152 in 1900, and those to Porto Rico increased from $1,088,888 in 1897 to $4,040,431 in 1900. These figures do not include supplies sent to these islands for the United States military and naval forces or for the use of the United States authorities in any way. They are the purely commercial exports which pass through the custom houses.

Some of these goods are, of course, bought by Americans in the islands, but these Americans bring them to the notice of the natives. It has been said that every American soldier in the insular possessions of the United States is a commercial agent, for the natives see the kind of things he uses, and want similar goods for themselves.

The inhabitants of all the islands are rapidly adopting American clothing and American boots and shoes. As all of them have warm climates, comparatively few woollen goods are used, and the largest items are shown in cottons. In 1897 Cuba bought cotton goods in the United States to the value of only $87,452 while in 1900 she bought cottons to the value of $612,272. Porto Rico bought to the value of $12,062 in 1897, and $312,450 in 1900. The exports of cotton to Hawaii and the Philippine islands in 1897 were so small that they were not stated separately in the treasury statistics. In 1899 the exports to Hawaii had grown to $572,351, and those to the Philippines to $29,744. The total exports of boots and shoes in 1897 were so small that they were not given by countries at all, and very few went to any of the islands. In 1900 the exports to Cuba were $248,037, to Porto Rico $25,759, to Hawaii $191,884, and to the Philippines $6,010.

Exporters of almost every article produced or manufactured in the United States are beginning to find markets for their goods in these islands, and these markets will continually expand, as American goods come to be better known and the consuming power of the inhabitants grows with their increase in prosperity under just and stable governments.—Boston Herald.

A Supreme Court Decision.

The first stage in the process of formulating a decision is for the chief justice and the eight associate justices to meet in conference, and after a free and full exchange of views select some member of the court to block out the first draft of the decision. Ordinarily, says the New York Tribune, the justice to whom this duty is assigned requires a month or more to sift the chaff from the grain of argument, and, having accomplished this to his own satisfaction, nearly as much time is required in which to formulate his own opinion and reduce it to writing. In a case of such magnitude and transcendent importance in point of fact, there are eight or ten of these cases, every one of which has at core the same constitutional point, but the details of no two of which are exactly alike—it is reasonable to suppose that more time will be consumed in the preliminary stage of arriving at a decision. The justice who writes the first draft of the decision has galley proofs of it struck off for the convenience of his associates. When what the court officials call the galley proof stage has thus been completed, another conference of the justices is called and the galley proof opinion is distributed. Discussion of the opinion in that form by the full bench may or may not then ensue. It is probable that each justice will carry this galley proof opinion to his own study for more careful investigation than it may be convenient to give it in conference. When the chief justice learns that his associates are ready for another conference he calls it, and then the galley proof decision, as corrected and revised by each justice to suit his views, may be multiplied into as many decisions as there are members of the court, excepting, of course, that member who wrote the original will make no changes in it. At this stage the really difficult work of the process of forming the final opinion begins. If there is to be a divided court, that fact then becomes patent, and the completion of the task is still further delayed by the necessity of the dissenters or the minority going through identically the same process of designating one of their number to prepare a galley proof opinion for their investigation, correction and revision so as to meet to a nicety the views of each of the minority. In the mean time the majority are laboring to produce from their work of revision on the original galley proof opinion a deliverance that in principles and phraseology accurately sets forth the opinion of each of their number.

What Coronations Cost.

Probably the most expensive coronation that ever took place was that of the present czar of Russia, which was celebrated at Moscow with great splendor in 1896. Upward of £3,000,000 was expended by the government alone, and fully another million by the public authorities of various Russian towns. The representatives of other powers vie with each other in lavish outlays; and, counting the sums spent by private persons, the coronation of Nicholas II. cannot have cost much less than £5,000,000.

Forty thousand pounds was expended on the czarina's coronation robe; and the harness for the carriage horses taking part in the procession involved an outlay of £100,000. Lady singers of the rank of prima donna were engaged by the score, no fewer than fifty taking part in the ceremony. What they cost may be gathered from the fee of 5,000 guineas paid to Mme. Sigrid Arnoldson.

The coronation of Czar Nicholas I. was also a very expensive affair. The then Duke of Devonshire was the British representative at the imposing function, and spent fully £50,000 of his own money in connection with it. The czar's crown is said to be the finest ever worn by a sovereign. It is in the form of a bishop's mitre. On its crest is a cross composed of five of the most beautiful diamonds ever cut, supporting the largest ruby in the world. It is also adorned with many other precious gems, including a large number of the handsomest pearls ever seen.

Compared with the sums lavished on a Russian coronation, the cost of the ceremony in England is exceedingly small. The coronation of George IV. was the most expensive of any English monarch, and this only cost £240,000. Of this sum £24,000 was expended on coronation robes and £54,000 on the crown.

The amount was considered enormous, and as the public were excluded from Westminster Abbey during the ceremony there was a great deal of criticism and dissatisfaction with the whole affair. A large number of pavilions were erected along the line of route of the procession, the price of a single seat ranging from £2 4s. to £8 8s.

The cost of the coronation of George III. did not amount to half that of the coronation of George IV. But it was a very impressive ceremony, which the public were not debarred from witnessing; or, at least, such of them as could afford to pay for seats in the galleries of Westminster Abbey. The front seats were let at ten guineas each. Small houses along the route of the procession were let at from £200 to £300. Larger houses cleared £700, and some even as much as £1,200.

William IV. had a pronounced dislike to pomp and pageantry, and on his accession expressed a desire that the coronation ceremony should be made as simple and inexpensive as it could be with proper regard to its dignity. His wishes were carried out, with the result that the whole cost of the coronation amounted to only £30,000.

This, of course, involved the sacrifice of some of the function's attractions as a spectacular affair; but the fees charged for viewing the procession were, if anything, higher than any paid before, small fortunes being made by householders along the line of route.

The coronation of our late beloved sovereign, Queen Victoria, was a splendid piece of pageantry. Its cost was £70,000. The coronation ring had been made for the little finger instead of the fourth, as prescribed by the rubric. The Archbishop of Canterbury insisted that the directions of the prayer-book should be precisely carried out, and the forcing of the ring on the queen's finger caused her intense p

PURE RYE WHISKEY

4 Full Quarts for $**3.20**

Express Charges Prepaid,

Direct from Distiller to Consumer.

Our entire product is sold direct to consumers, thus avoiding middlemen's profits and adulteration. If you want pure Whiskey, our offer will interest you.

We will send four full quart bottles of Hayner's Seven-Year-Old Double Copper Distilled Rye Whiskey for $3.20, Express Prepaid. We ship in plain packages—no marks to indicate contents. When you get it and test it, if it is not satisfactory return it at our expense and we will return your $3.20.

Our Distillery was established in 1866. We have enjoyed 33 years' continual growth until we now have one hundred and sixty-five thousand customers throughout the United States who are using **Hayner's** Whiskey, which is an evidence of **true merit.** We give you absolutely **pure** Whiskey at the lowest possible cost. Such Whiskey as we offer for $3.20 cannot be purchased elsewhere for less than $5.00.

References—State Nat'l Bank, St. Louis, Third Nat'l Bank, Dayton, or any of the Express Companies.

Orders for Ariz., Colo., Cal., Idaho, Mont., Nev., New Mex., Ore., Utah, Wash., Wyo., must call for 20 quarts by freight, prepaid.

WRITE TO NEAREST ADDRESS.

THE HAYNER DISTILLING CO. 226-232 W. Fifth St., Dayton, Ohio. 305-307 S. Seventh St., St. Louis, Mo.

We guarantee the above Company will do just as it agrees.—EDITOR.

LAND COLUMN.

Advertisements under this head, three lines (21 words) for one dollar each insertion, from Blade subscribers only, and from none others.

Read full notice on fourth page of this paper.

FOR SALE—Fine Fruit Farm, income property, under irrigation, near Riverside, Cal. For particulars address R. C. Brinkerhoff, Riverside, Cal.

FARM FOR SALE—105 acres, 10 timber, buildings fair. Good water. All kinds fruit started. Mrs. B. M. Tanner, Elkhart, Ind.

FOR SALE—69 acres, 23 bottom, 18 clay, balance swamp land; large house, barn, orchard, etc. Samuel Campbell, Oakwood, Paulding Co., Ohio.

FARM FOR SALE—240 acres in Southwest Missouri. Fine level prairie, all in tame grass, well fenced. Oliver Wimmer, Santha, Mo.

FARM FOR SALE—80 acres, good house, barn, cellar, cistern, fruits of all kinds. Address Box 202 Irving, Illinois. Consideration $3,00.

FOR SALE—An ideal half section near Oklahoma City. 200 acres crop goes with farm. T. F. Armstrong, Lenox, Iowa.

FOR SALE—73 acres, two miles from Court House. Running water, good buildings, close to school. John Castret, Cleveland, Brad Co., Tenn.

FOR SALE—80 acres, extra good land; fair buildings, fruit, near school, 1 1-2 miles from market and creamery. Ed Nauman, Thornburg, Iowa.

RANCH FOR SALE—940 acres, 2 1-2 miles from Paxton, Nebraska; good buildings, tanks, wells, reservoir, fifty acres alfalfa; cut 150 tons of hay. John Patterson, Paxton, Nebraska.

WILL DEAL—Two farms, 150 and 200 acres; also fine brick block, all clear and income paying. W. H. Kimball, Tallapoosa, Ga.

Publishers' Column

A LIBERAL PICTURE OFFER. TEN FULL TONE PHOTOTYPES

Postpaid to Any Address for 60 Cents.

Think of it! Ten beautiful pictures, selected subjects, in two colors, black and brown, mounted on heavy, dark gray cardboard, 13x14 inches. They are all the finest new for wall adornment, and we have sold thousands of sets to our city subscribers. We are going to give our out-of-town subscribers the same opportunity to obtain a set of these pretty pictures as those in Toledo. If you want to make your room tasty and attractive, then you want a set of these pictures. As they are mounted on stiff cardboard, it is not necessary to frame them. A small tack will hold them in place. Order at once, as our supply is limited, and this offer will not continue long.

These pictures cannot be purchased at any store for less than 10c each. Our price, 60 cents for a collection of 10.

Address The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

NICKEL SILVER TABLEWARE.

Looks Like Silver, Wears Like Silver, Sounds Like Silver.

We now offer to our subscribers (and Blade subscribers only, remember) nickel silver tableware at prices lower than ever before, and much below the regular retail prices. These goods are made of 21 per cent nickel silver, are hand burnished, and for appearance and durable wearing qualities are unequalled. These goods are becoming very popular with all classes of people.

½ doz. Tea Spoons	$ .75
1 doz. Tea Spoons	1.20
½ doz. Dessert Spoons	1.00
1 doz. Dessert Spoons	1.75
½ doz Table Spoons	1.30
1 doz. Table Spoons	2.25
½ doz. Dessert Forks	1.00
1 doz. Dessert Forks	1.75
Sugar Spoon	.25
Butter Knife	.30

Blade Watches by Mail.

Many years experience in supplying subscribers with watches by mail at less than retail prices, has taught us that cheap goods and odd brands are unsatisfactory. There are other good watches, but that our readers may know in advance what they are buying, we make our new list herewith submitted, entirely of Walthams and Elgins. These well known names, coupled with the endorsement of The Blade, will leave no room for doubt in the minds of those who wish to order. In this list we have endeavored to meet the views of all classes, beginning with a cheap watch for common use of boys or men, and running up to better and more reliable grades. These watches are all stem set and stem wind, and all gold filled cases, are fitted with solid gold bows, hinges and thumb pieces. Write us if you desire other or special styles not listed below. We send these watches, postpaid by registered mail on receipt of price named. Address The Blade, Toledo, Ohio. Send for our descriptive circulars.

No. 9.

Waltham or Elgin open face, 7-jeweled nickel works. Case is ore silver, a composition metal of high grade. Looks and wears like silver; screw back and face, with heavy plate crystal. Price delivered by mail $5.20.

No. 11.

Case same as No. 9, fitted with Elgin or Waltham 15-jeweled movement. Price only $8.00.

No. 17.

Waltham or Elgin 20-year gold filled case, guaranteed to wear as stated, screw back. Works same as No. 9. Price, open face, by mail, $10.50; same in hunting case, $12.00.

No. 23.

Same as No. 17, except works will be 15 jewel. Price, open face, screw back, $12.00; same, hunting case, $14.00.

No. 25.

Ladies' solid gold hunting case Waltham or Elgin, 14-karat gold, 7-jewel Waltham or Elgin, stem wind and set. This same watch The Blade has sold for more than ten years, and we know them to be satisfactory. Price by mail, $20.00.

No. 27.

Ladies' hunting case, 20-year, gold filled. Works exactly same as No. 25, and case just as good for all purposes. We will send this watch postpaid for $14.00.

No. 33—For Girls.

Works same as above, in open, 10-year filled case. Just the thing for girls or ladies who desire an open face. Price by mail, $11.50.

5 Year Guaranteed Plated Chains.

No. 1—Men's small link, 11 inch	$2.00
No. 2—Men's medium size link	1.75
No. 5—Ladies' gold slide chain, 48 inches	2.25

Presidential Cook Book.

Probably the best cook book ever published in this country bears the above title. It is the most popular, has had the largest sale, and is the most practical one for general family use. The price—thousands have sold for two and three dollars each—has placed it beyond the reach of the majority of housekeepers. An edition has been issued in cheap form, with paper covers, containing the same information as the original. It is printed with large type, on good paper, and answers every purpose for use of the ordinary housewife. We have secured a few hundred copies, which we offer to Blade subscribers, postpaid by mail or express, for 25 cents. We will send a copy free to any person remitting us one dollar for the Weekly Blade one year, and asking for a copy of the book as a premium.

MORE GOLD.

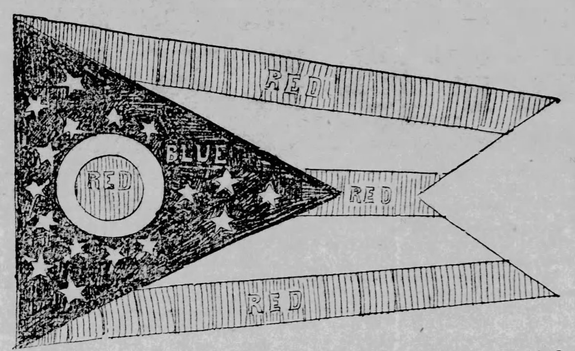
Tacoma, Wash., April 27.—Men who have just arrived from Dawson say a second strike has been made in the marvelous Eldorado Creek district in Alaska.

Two men who discovered the spot washed out $5,000 the first day. Pans of dirt taken from the streak yield as high as $50 each, and not a bucket of the gravel comes to the surface that does not contain nuggets running all the way from a quarter of an ounce to an ounce in weight, pure gold.

The messengers say that the strike has created the wildest excitement all along Eldorado, and that miners are flocking to the neighborhood by the thousands.

French Biskra, on the edge of the Sahara desert, is lighted by electric light at night, and contains half a dozen very good hotels.

FLAG FOR THE BUCKEYE STATE



Cleveland, O., April 29.—Ohio now enjoys the distinction of being the only state in the Union with an official flag. The state flag is in the form of a cavalry or artillery guidon. It is a forked flag, bearing a triangular blue field, on which appears a white initial letter O, with a red center and seventeen white stars, in recognition of Ohio as the seventeenth state to be admitted to the Union. The body of the flag has five broad stripes alternating red and white, red stripes being at top and bottom and in the center. Two peculiarities of this flag are, first, that it is perfectly symmetrical and is the same turned either way, and the other that by containing its length two times at the same angle the flag becomes a pennant without alteration.

At the dedication of the Ohio building at the Pan-American the flag will fly just below the national flag. It will be used as the official Ohio badge on Ohio and other days when visitors from this state feel the need of a distinctive emblem. A Cleveland man designed the flag.

REV. MR. AMENT.

He Takes Vigorous Exceptions to Mark Twain's Statements.

San Francisco, April 26.—Rev. W. S. Ament, of the American board of foreign missions of the Congregational church, whose collection of indemnity for damages done by Boxers in China, has caused considerable discussion, takes vigorous exception to the criticisms made by Mark Twain and others as to the alleged misconduct of the missionaries. He says: "We found ourselves at the close of the siege with 500 native Christians upon our hands, no food, no clothing, no money and every Christian house burned.

"On the very day of the arrival of the allied forces we were informed that we must leave the British legation, as it was to be used as headquarters for the officers of the British army. I immediately thought of a Mongol prince, Hsi Ling, who was an ally of the Boxers and whose place was the headquarters of Boxers and blacklegs. We found the prince's place entirely empty, and the next day we brought up our native Christians and occupied the deserted place. In that house and its neighboring houses that we occupied we put more than 2000 people. We took only abandoned property.

"The only food in the prince's palace was a bit of rice. We decided to sell the clothing and curios found upon the premises and realized $2,500 in gold. They were bought by British and American officers at a private sale of two weeks' duration.

"Native Christians brought us furs and sables which they had purchased at a low price from wealthy Chinese, who feared they might be looted by the military people and who were willing to dispose of them for a little money. These articles were sold at our place to British and other officers. It is considered that there was no unfair, honest speculation which injured nobody and that benefited many people.

"There may have been some looted goods taken, but it was without my knowledge. The Russians and Sikh soldiers were selling off truck very cheap, but my people did not do the looting."

THE PAN-AMERICAN.

Buffalo, April 29.—Yesterday's attendance at the Pan-American exposition was a record-breaker for a pre-exposition crowd. Fully 30,000 people passed through the gates, about 75 per cent of them paying for admission. Although the exposition is far from complete, everyone seemed satisfied with what there was to see. The managers of the exposition had been working for a unique distinction—that of having everything in readiness for the opening day, and had it not been for the storm, their hopes, no doubt, would have been fulfilled. As it is, the "sandpaper" finish the management has strived for cannot be accomplished by May 1, but there will be enough of it to repay anyone who visits the grounds on the opening day.

An event on the opening day (next Wednesday) will be the flight of 5,000 carrier pigeons, carrying the news of the opening of the exposition.

Glad That the Noise Was Heard.

The Mistress (entering the kitchen)—Jane, didn't I hear a dish break a minute ago?

The Maid—I hope you did, mem. It made noise enough. If you hadn't heard it I should have thought you were getting deaf, and that, you know, would be awful.—Boston Transcript.

NEW METHODIST EDITOR.

Cincinnati, April 26.—David D. Thompson was yesterday elected editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate, of Chicago, by the book committee of the Methodist Episcopal church, to succeed the Rev. Dr. Arthur Edwards, deceased. The action is progressive and was not accomplished without a struggle. Preference was entirely against the successful candidate, for he is a layman, and hitherto only ministers and doctors of divinity have been selected to sit in the editorial chairs of the Methodist papers, as well as to fill almost all the other places of trust and honor.

DAVID D. THOMPSON,
New Chief Editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate.

After Twenty-Eight Years.

When the claims made by an advertiser are carried out by the facts, the advertiser should make those facts public. This is suggested by the advertisement of the Elkhart Carriage and Harness Manufacturing Co., of Elkhart, Ind., that regularly uses The Blade in season. It has claimed for several years to be "the largest manufacturing establishment in the world selling vehicles and harness to the consumer exclusively." Any one who visits its mammoth establishment and investigates will find this to be absolutely true. It is the result of honest business honestly conducted. Every article sold is made in the company's factories. Write to them for a large illustrated catalogue which they will send free to any Blade reader.

GIGANTIC SCHEME.

New York, April 24.—The Herald is authority for the statement that it is asserted that Senator W. A. Clarke's millions are waiting to back the enormously valuable concession which has been made by the legislature in the Raines bill giving the New York and New Jersey Bridge company the right to build a viaduct along West street, from Fifty-Ninth street to the Battery.

Reports that Senator Clark is the chief figure in the syndicate which is said to be behind the bridge bill are said to be borne out by the fact that a member of his family is prominently connected with the project. Dr. Everett Mallory Culver, who married the daughter of the Montana millionaire, is president of the New Jersey Bridge corporation, which is associated with a similar corporation which is headed by James S. Clarkson in this state, in the great enterprise.

Should all this be verified and should Senator Clarke come into possession of the privilege given by the legislature, he would be able to dictate terms, it is said, to sixteen great railways, which would have to use his railway in order to obtain access to the docks.

If He Says So

Don't doubt your doctor. If you haven't perfect confidence in him, get another. If you have just the one you like, ask him this straight, plain question:

"What do you think of Ayer's Sarsaparilla?"

If he says it's good for tired people, good for purifying and enriching the blood, good for weak nerves, and good for building up the general health, then remember his advice.

Perhaps one of these days you will want to profit by it.

$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

Disposing of 14,000 Farms

Inasmuch as the President and cabinet have discussed and approved the idea of a drawing, it may be fairly concluded that this will be the plan of distributing the 14,000 homesteads. Secretary Hitchcock, Assistant Secretary Ryan and Assistant Attorney General Von Devanter sat up till after 12 o'clock several nights before they had perfected the plan.

An unthinking public will doubtless call this scheme a lottery, but it will not be. The lottery principle will be carefully eliminated. The government will not put the 14,000 tracts, of 160 acres each, into a drawing. All persons who can qualify under the homestead laws and who wish to advance the fees will be given thirty days in which to file application. The element of chance is the order in which applicants shall be permitted to select their lands after the applications are in. The drawing determines solely the right of precedence in filing claims.

For the 14,000 homesteads there will be many applicants. A scramble is out of the question. The government can show no favors in distribution. It can only devise a plan whereby the applicants shall draw for their turns to be recognized in filing their claims. The 14,000 applicants obtaining the lowest numbers will get the quarter-sections to be entered, and they will have the exercise of choice in the order of those numbers from the smallest upward. The man who draws the lowest number will have the selection from the 14,000 farms, and the man who draws the highest within the limit of the total number of the farms to be distributed will have no choice at all, but will have to take the last one left.

For a time the officers of the interior department thought there might be 40,000 persons quality, pay the fees and file applications. Now, with the evidences of increasing interest, they will not be surprised if the applicants reach 100,000. That will mean 100,000 numbers will be drawn, and the 14,000 lowest will get the homesteads. The 86,000 holding numbers above this limit will receive their fees back and subsequent proceedings will interest them no more.

Notice in abundant time will be given when the land offices on the edges of the reservations to be opened are ready to receive applications. Thirty days will be allowed for this reception of applicants. But the would-be homesteader who comes the first day will have no advantage over the man who presents his application on the thirtieth day. From a great collection of numbers the drawing alone will determine the order of selection and filing.

Decently and in order the homesteaders will select their quarter-sections and file their claims in the order of the numbers drawn by them and when the last of the 14,000 is filed upon that will be the end. That is to say, it will be the end so far as the farms are concerned. But townsites have been laid out. The lots will be sold at auction. Eligible corners in these towns, which exist only on paper until the government officers and the town builders appear, will, Mr. Flynn thinks, bring $2,500 apiece. The first $10,000 realized from these auctions will go for town improvements in the way of court houses. The remainder will be kept for roads, bridges and other improvements. Other counties in the new country have gone into debt from $25,000 to $50,000 for first improvements. The counties of these latest additions to Oklahoma will start with money in their treasuries for all necessary purposes.

To all of the praiseworthy legislation and carefully arranged plans for the opening of these Indian lands there is one drawback. Land agents on the borders of the reservations are holding out pretended inducements to the homeseekers. They are seductively representing that they can secure advantages to those who employ them to look after their interests. The fees demanded by these agents range from $20 to $100. It seems to be in vain that repeated warnings are sent out by the interior department. The harvest of suckers goes no.

The particular prey of the land agents is the old soldier. By the land laws the veteran who has served his country can file on a homestead by proxy. His filing fee is smaller than that of the ordinary civilian. He may reduce by the length of his war service the time necessary to perfect title. But there is no way by which the old soldier can get one of these farms out of the turn which the drawing of the numbers may give him. So say the officers of the government.

PERSONALS.

H. T. Newcomb has resigned the place of expert chief of the division of agriculture in the census office in order to take charge of the news and editorial columns of the Railway World, published in Philadelphia.

An old horn snuffbox once belonging to Sir Francis Drake, possibly the one which he used at Plymouth Hoe during the famous game of bowls, has just been sold in London for £3 10s. The snuffbox is a quaint old relic, bearing the coat of arms of Sir Francis, with his name on the lid.

Gallus Ritter von Hochberger, imperial and royal counsellor of the Austrian court, is believed to be the oldest daily qualified physician in the world. He was born on Oct. 15, 1806, and is therefore 95 years of age. He has been practicing for 71 years, and still gives medical advice.

The Washington Sangerbund, premier musical society of the District of Columbia, and one of the famous choral organizations of America, will observe its 50th anniversary on next Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. The celebration will embrace musical features which include the services of many of the best singers in the country.

Henry Maillard, jr., president of the French Benevolent society of New York, and of the French hospital has received the decoration of Knight of the Legion of Honor. The French government wished to recognize the valuable services rendered by Mr. Maillard to the Benevolent society since 1868, when he was elected its president, and generally to the French residents of New York.

Things Preachers Must Know to Get Army Jobs

The president recently appointed 17 army chaplains. Under the law all such appointments are subject to examination except in the case of chaplains serving in the volunteer establishment, of which there are only six. The war department has just completed arrangements for the examination of the remaining 11. Instructions have been issued to the board, defining the scope of the examination to the chaplains as follows:

1. English grammar, including orthography, reading, writing from oral dictation and English literature.

2. Mathematics, including arithmetic, algebra, to include the solutions of the first degree containing one unknown quantity, the use of logarithms, the elements of plain geometry, plain trigonometry and surveying.

3. Geography, particularly in reference to the United States of North America.

4. The outlines of general history, and particularly the history of the United States.

5. The constitution of the United States and the organization of the government under it and the elements of international law.

6. Physical aptitude, as determined by the medical examination.

7. Moral character and civil record as verified after a thorough investigation by the board.

ALL SORTS.

Jack—What is your idea of true happiness? Dick—Money, and a place to spend it.—Syracuse Herald.

Like the Rest of Us: "Where did you first see the light of day?" inquired the city man of the farmer. "In the east," quietly replied the bucolic citizen.—Yonkers Statesman.

"Jones is as good a fish liar as anybody I know. I told him an awful whopper the other night, but he matched it right pace. 'Huh!' he said, 'that's nothing to what I caught.'"—Brooklyn Life.

Casey—Corrigan's got the grip and won't be out for a month. Cleary—Ar-r-r-a, sure he'll be dead sure! The judge gev him thirty days yisterday for thryin' to cure ut be gittin' dreonk!—Puck.

Dooley—What's the matter wid ye, anyhow, Mike? Ye are tattered an' torrun an' bitten an' scratched all over. Mike—Ay, an' me own dog done it! I went home sober last noight, an' tha baste didn't know me!—Puck.

KITCHEN EXPENSES.

Reduced By Ready Cooked Grape-Nuts.

"Modern food saves gas bills (cooking), labor and doctor's bills, and the food I refer to is Grape-Nuts," says a Chicago woman.

"We have used Grape Nuts over a year. I weighed, when I began using it, about 100 pounds, but have gained 22 pounds since. I have recovered entirely from dyspepsia since using this delicious food. My husband and children enjoy Grape-Nuts as much as I do, and they have all been decidedly benefited by its use.

"My baby is very much healthier than my other two children were at his age. I attribute the difference to the use I have made of Grape-Nuts Food.

"Of course it is a great advantage to have a food that is already cooked and sure to be in good condition. This is not always true of many cereals."—Mrs. Geo. S. Foster, 1025 Wabansia Ave., Chicago, Ill.

PREDESTINATION.

Dogma Will Probably Be Dropped by the Presbyterian Assembly.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 27.—The doctrine of predestination, heretofore regarded as the specific and determining groundwork of Presbyterian theology, is likely to be annulled in the next general assembly. While it was expected that the sub-committee of the committee on the revision of the creed would urge some change, it was not dreamed that so sweeping an alteration would be ever even proposed.

In the third article of the recommendation the committee states that the loss of any one soul is "not the decree of God." The Westminster confession of faith states that only those elected by God can be saved and hence implies that those not so elected must be lost. The work of the committee was that of compiling the returns from the presbyteries, and therefore the announcement of its findings is the announcement of what is the sentiment of the church throughout the country.

The recommendations are as follows:

Your committee finds, on examination of the returns from the presbyteries, the following facts:

1. That the returns indicate that the church desires some change in its credal statement.

2. That the returns indicate that no change is desired which would in any way impair the integrity of the system of doctrine contained in the confession of faith.

3. These returns indicate that it is the mind of the church that the confession shall be interpreted throughout, in harmony with the teaching of scripture, that God is not willing that any one should perish, nor is it the decree of God but the wickedness of their own hearts which shuts some men out from the salvation freely and lovingly offered in Christ Jesus to all sinners.

4. These returns indicate that a plurality of the presbyteries desired that changes should be made by some new statements of present doctrines.

5. The returns also indicate a desire on the part of many presbyteries for some revision of the present confession, especially in chapter 3; chapter 10, section 3; chapter 14, section 7; chapter 22, section 3, and chapter 25, section 6, with additional statements concerning the love of God for all men, missions and Holy Spirit.

(a) In view of these facts we recommend that a committee as provided by the form of government, chapter 23, section 3, be appointed by this assembly.

(b) We recommend that this committee be instructed to prepare a brief summary of the reformed faith, bearing the same relation to the confession which the shorter catechism bears to the larger catechism and formed on the general model of the consensus, now prepared for the assembly of 1902, or the "articles of faith" of the Presbyterian church of England, both of which documents are appended to the committee's report and submitted to the assembly, to be referred to the committee that may be appointed.

This summary is not to be a substitute for the confession and is not to affect the terms of subscription, but "to vindicate and clear the doctrines of the church from all false aspersions and misconceptions," to give a better understanding of what is most surely believed among us and is to the sense to impair, but rather to manifest and maintain the integrity of the reformed faith.

(c) We further recommend that this committee be instructed to prepare amendments of chapter 3; chapter 10, section 3; chapter 16, section 7; chapter 22, section 3, and chapter 25, section 6, of our confession of faith either by modification of the text or by declaratory statement, so as more clearly to express the mind of the church, with additional statements concerning the love of God for all men, missions and the Holy Spirit. It being understood that the revision shall in no way impair the integrity of the system of doctrines set forth in our confession and taught in the holy Scripture.

BICYCLES BELOW COST

5000 high grade guaranteed 1901 MODELS, the overstock of one of the best known factories of the country, secured by us at one-half cost. *Four Models* ..... High Grade $10 to $16

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Catalogues with large *photographic engravings* and full detailed specifications *sent free* to any address.

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RIDER AGENTS WANTED in each town to ride and exhibit a sample 1901 model bicycle. In your spare time you can make $10 to $50 a week besides having a wheel to ride for yourself.

WE WANT a reliable person in each town to distribute catalogues for us in exchange for a bicycle. Write today for free catalogue and *our special offer.*

MEAD CYCLE CO., Dept. 6 H, Chicago.

CUBAN DELEGATES

Confer With the President and Then With Secretary Root.

Washington, April 24.—The commission of five delegates to the Cuban constitutional convention, consisting of Domingo Mendez Capote, Petro E. Betancourt, Rafael M. Portuondo, Diego Tamayo and Pedro Gonzales Llorente, who were sent to Washington regarding Cuban relations with this country, arrived here this morning, together with an interpreter and representatives of the Havana press.

They were met at the station by Assistant Secretary of State Hill, Assistant Secretary of War Sanger, Captain Sawtelle and Lieutenant Overton, of the United States army, detailed for that purpose, and escorted to the Shoreham. The delegates conversed with the reception committee through an interpreter, though most of them speak English very well. It was stated that arrangements for their visit to the President would be made through the war department.

General Wood, military governor of Cuba, also arrived this morning with his family and took apartments at the Richmond. He came to the war department and had a conference with Assistant Secretary Sanger. He sent his secretary to the Cuban delegation to ascertain their desires for the day in order that he might be able to act as their escort, either to the White House or the war department. General Wood has had no direct information from General Whiteside regarding the reported troubles at Santiago, but before he left Cuba he had been advised by General Whiteside that party strife was making some trouble in that municipality, and that disorders might be anticipated during the spring elections in other sections of the island. After that, however, it is expected that the usual tranquility of the island will be resumed.

Washington, April 26.—The members of the Cuban constitutional committee were entertained at a state dinner given in their honor by the President at the white house last night.

The guests invited to meet them were thoroughly representative of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the government and included members of the cabinet, senators and representatives who have been prominent in the discussion of insular affairs, justices of the supreme court and officers of the army and navy. The dinner was limited exclusively to gentlemen and covers were set for forty-seven. The guests assembled in the east room, where the formal introductions were made, after which the party proceeded to the state dining room where dinner was served.

The most important meeting of the day was a conference in Secretary Root's office lasting from three until six o'clock in the afternoon. This was the first business meeting, the others having been social and formal.

It was made plain to the Cubans by Secretary Root that no modification of the Platt amendment could be made by the executive department of the government and the Cubans themselves understand that there is little possibility of congressional action in that direction, so the conference was devoted largely to the construction which could be placed upon the amendment. The fact states that the propositions contained in the amendment "shall be substantially" agreed to by the Cubans and the discussion revolved chiefly around what will be considered a "substantial" agreement to the Platt amendment requirements. There was some very fine legal sparring between Secretary Root and Senor Capote, the president of the constitutional convention and chairman of the delegation, as to the meaning of the amendment and the meaning of certain proposed drafts of the different propositions that were considered. Both the secretary and Senor Capote expressed their views quite freely and the exchange of suggestions and replies was very interesting to those present. The intervention proposition caused the most discussion, and as this had received much consideration in the convention in Havana, the Cubans were familiar with all phases of the construction that might be placed upon it. All members of the delegation took more or less part in the discussion and the views of each were given careful attention by Secretary Root.

It is understood that the Cubans are impressed with the desire on the part of this government to deal fairly by Cuba and the belief is expressed that the delegation will take home favorable reports of our intentions.

Washington, April 27.—The members of the Cuban commission called upon the President to-day to bid him farewell. Senor Capote urged that something be done at once toward reciprocal treaty relations for the benefit of the Cubans. The President replied that nothing could be done on economic lines until the political questions were settled; that it would be necessary for the Cubans to form a government before any negotiations could be entered into. He assured the delegation that, as soon as the Cuban government was formed he would appoint a commission to consider economic relations.

Washington, April 27.—There was another conference at the War department yesterday afternoon, lasting more than three hours. At this sitting not only the political relations of the United States and Cuba were discussed, but there was also much time devoted to the economic questions, such as the possibility of a reduction of the tariff on sugar, and general reciprocity arrangements between this country and the island. This was regarded as practically the last business conference by the United States officials, though it is quite probable that the Cubans will desire a further conference with Secretary Root in order to have some points that have been discussed further elucidated after they have considered among themselves the statements made to them by the secretary. There will be no further conference with Secretary Root until Monday. This was determined upon by the delegation after its return from the War department last evening. No statement, official or otherwise, could be obtained from the delegation as to the progress that was made during the conference, nor would the delegates go so far as to say they were satisfied. While it is believed by the United States officials who were present at the conference yesterday that everything that possibly could be explained by this government had been gone into yet if the Cubans desire to make further inquiries they will be given the opportunity. It is believed by the United States officials that a very fair understanding has been reached, and that the complete report of the interviews with the secretary which the delegation will take back to the convention will have a very satisfactory result upon the members of that body.

We Pay $20 a Week and expenses to men with rigs to introduce Poultry Compound. International Mfg. Co., Parsons, Kan.

WANTED—Agents in every county to sell "Pansy Memorials," good profits and steady work. Address Campbell & Co., 430 Plum St., Dayton, O.

WANTED—Local representatives everywhere, city and country; pleasant home work for ladies or gents. Salary $18 a month. Address with stamp German Medicine Co., Box F, Montgomery, Ala.

LADIES to do piece work at their homes. We furnish all material and pay from $7 to $15 weekly; experience unnecessary. Send stamped envelope to Royal Co., Dept. F 14, 34 Monroe, Chicago.

Wall Paper Samples Book containing 500 samples **Free.** 25 patterns sent to any address. Papers from 3c per double roll up. Mark Wall Paper Co., Box 216, Toledo, O.

FREE TO LADIES WHO WRITE FOR **FREE** CANNOT FAIL TO BE PLEASED. Box 1, Jackson, Mich.

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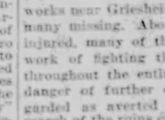

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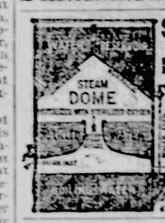

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BIG WAGES—For Handy Pocket Water Still, evaporates water by steam. Distills 10,000 gallons with coal. Demand enormous. Everybody buys. Over 100 other specialties. Write for Catalogue, Terms, etc. FREE. Harrison Mfg. Co., 211 Harrison Bldg., Cincinnati, O.

DO YOU WANT A WATCH that keeps perfect time? Then send for our free booklet. It tells how we sell the celebrated Keystone Watch, fully guaranteed for 25 years, at $3.98. Also about our Watch Club Plan, by which you can get a watch free. Address KEYSTONE WATCH CO., Box 1200, New York.

AWFUL EXPLOSION.

Chemical Works in Germany Go Up With Fearful Loss.

Frankfort, April 26.—By 11 o'clock this morning 80 bodies had been recovered from the debris at the electric-chemical works near Griesheim, but there are still many missing. About 150 persons were injured, many of them seriously. The work of fighting the flames proceeded throughout the entire night, though the danger of further explosions was regarded as averted at midnight. The search of the ruins continues. The scenes which occurred throughout the night were most distressing. Villagers and survivors were groping about the ruins in search of relatives and comrades and endeavoring to recognize, in the charred bodies or dismembered and mutilated corpses, the identity of missing friends.

The flames gutted Marx & Merling's chemical factory and a part of the Griesheim colore works.

A number of children, who were hurled by the explosion into the river Main, were drowned before the rescuers could reach them. Several firemen are among the victims. A special train with relief firemen and additional doctors and nurses was sent to the scene of the disaster this morning. A number who it was feared had perished reported themselves this morning.

There was a fresh outbreak of the flames among the ruins at Griesheim at noon which revived apprehensions and, after the explosion of a great benzine reservoir, at 11 o'clock this morning, orders were issued that everyone in the village of Griesheim and its vicinity must vacate these premises forthwith. The inhabitants fled panic-stricken, with such possessions as they could hastily collect, most of them coming to Frankfort. Even the firemen, salvagers and soldiers left the scene of the disaster. The railroad service to Griesheim is suspended on account of the danger.

It transpires that during the panic this morning a number of women and children were thrown down and trampled under foot.

The danger of fresh explosions necessarily retards the drawing up of a correct death roll, but the latest reports do not indicate that it as large as was at first reported.

Frankfort, April 27.—It is officially announced that up to 11 o'clock this morning fourteen bodies have been recovered from the ruins of the buildings destroyed by the explosion and fire at the electro-chemical works, near Griesheim, Thursday afternoon. Several persons are still missing.

S AW HER OWN HEART.

Chicago, April 26.—Miss Dora B. Peters, of 34 Walton Place, saw her own heart yesterday, and was convinced she was not suffering from a fatal malady.

Miss Peters is 18 years old, and has a strong constitution, according to her physician. She was afflicted with sinking attacks and felt sure that at such times her heart ceased to beat. She visited Dr. J. G. Message, who said that her heart acted regularly. The difficulty was to convince her girl. Finally the physician adjusted an X-ray tube, darkened by a cloth, behind her back. The fluroscope was placed over her heart, and a heavy blanket thrown over her head to shut out any light that might find its way into the room. The girl then held a mirror directly in front of her heart. As her eyes became accustomed to the darkness, she began to discern the outlines of her heart. Gradually it developed until she saw it clearly. For several minutes the girl watched the pulsating organ, and then, turning to Dr. Message, she said: "I guess, after all, it isn't my heart that bothers me."

$1,000.00 IN GOLD DOLLARS FREE

Can You Solve This Puzzle?

Each one of the three lines of figures IN THE CENTRE OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT spells the name of a great city in the United States. This is a brand new puzzle and can be solved with a little study as follows: There are twenty-six letters in the alphabet, and we have used figures in spelling the cities instead of letters. Letter A is number 1, B number 2, C number 3, etc., throughout the entire alphabet. IF YOU CAN SPELL OUT THESE THREE CITIES YOU MAY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF $1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY for doing a little work for us. This you can do in less than one hour of your time. This and other most liberal offers are made to introduce one of the very best New York magazines into every home in the United States and Canada. WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY. When you have made out the names of these three cities, write them plainly on a postal card and send it to us, and you will hear from us promptly BY RETURN MAIL. It may take an entire evening to solve the three names, but STICK TO IT AND TRY TO GET YOUR SHARE OF THE $1,000.00. A copy of our high-class ONE DOLLAR MAGAZINE WILL BE SENT FREE to everyone answering this advertisement. Do not delay. Send your answer in immediately. WE INTEND TO GIVE AWAY VAST SUMS OF MONEY in the future, just as we have done in the past, to advertise our CHARMING MAGAZINE. We find it is the very best advertising we can get to give away LARGE SUMS OF GOLD FREE. Here are the names and addresses of a few people we have recently awarded FREE GOLD PRIZES: Mrs. J. M. Laslin, Twenty-third Street, Pittsburg, Pa., $130.00; Mr. O. F. Ackerman, Hill, N. H., $125.00; Mr. Fred. Pease, 146 Atkinson Street, Rochester, N. Y., $125.00; Mr. George Corbett, Five Islands, Nova Scotia, Canada, $80.00; H. C. Hare, 49 Wisconsin Avenue, Columbus, O., $1,750.00 (this includes the $950.00 Cabinet Grand Upright Piano); W. Kottle, 2765 Carson Street, Pittsburg, Pa., $190.00; Miss Martha Gregory, 3 Park Street, Norwalk, Conn., $105.00; Mrs. John Just, Box 7, Enfield, N. H., $100.00. We could go on and point hundreds of names of people who have gained large sums of money from our contests, but only give a few names, as we desire the space to tell you all about THIS SPECIAL $1,000.00 IN GOLD FREE OFFER. The above solution can be worked out by an alert and clever person, and the reward is so handsome that it will amply pay you to TRY AND SPELL OUT THESE THREE CITIES. Brains and energy nowadays are winning many Golden Prizes. Study it very carefully and let us see if you are clever and smart enough to spell out the Three Cities. WE HAVE THE $1,000.00 IN GOLD. Have you the brains and energy? If you can make out the names of the three cities, send them to us without one cent of money. Remember, this is our $1,000.00 in Gold Free Distribution, and we don't want you to send any money. When we say FREE, we mean PERFECTLY FREE.

The HOUSEHOLD And YOUNGFOLKS

EDITED BY EMILY S. BOUTON

THREE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

What do the robins whisper about
From their homes in the elms and birches?
I've tried to study the riddle out,
But still in my mind is many a doubt,
In spite of deep researches.

While over the world is silence deep,
In the twilight of early dawning,
They begin to chirp and twitter and peep,
As if they were talking in their sleep,
At three o'clock in the morning.

Perhaps the little ones stir and complain
That it's time to be up and doing;
And the mother-bird sings a drowsy strain
To coax them back to their dreams again
Though distant cocks are crowing.

Or do they tell secrets that should not be heard
By mortals listening and prying?
Perhaps we might learn from some whispered word
The best way to bring up a little bird—
Or the wonderful art of flying.

It may be they speak of an autumn day
When, with many a feathered roamer,
Under the clouds so cold and gray,
Over the hill they take their way,
In search of the vanished summer.

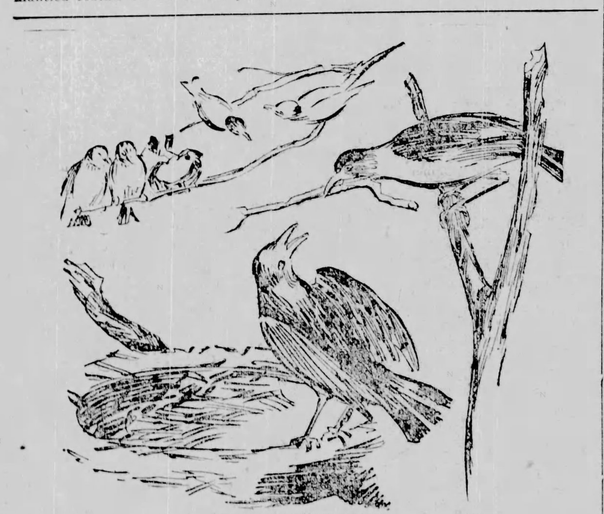
It may be they gossip from nest to nest,
Hidden and leaf-enfolded;
For do we not often hear it confessed,
When a long-kept secret at last is guessed,
That "a little bird has told it?"

Perhaps—but the question is wrapped in doubt,
They give me no hint or warning.
Listen, and tell me if you find out
What do the robins talk about
At three o'clock in the morning?
—Our Dumb Animals.

An Apple Tree Story.

Our back yard is a part of what was once an apple orchard. The gnarly, lichened trees, grown tall and wide-spreading with age, interlace their over-arching branches in a leafy canopy, so closely woven that through it the sunshine casts only a cool green twilight, save when some vagrant breeze parts the leaves and dancing spots of light filter through, flecking with gold the soft turf below. Along the fences old-fashioned flowers thrive and bloom. There are lady-slippers and bergamot, poppies and sweet peas, love-in-the-mist and spicy pinks, with here and there a stately sunflower standing like a sentinel, his round flat face staring over the barrier that divides him from the garden people on the other side. The floral domains are not too well-kept. Before the flowering season ends, the blossoms push and crowd, and bachelor's buttons, black-eyed Susans, nasturtiums and morning glories grow in a tangle, each one striving to outstrip the other till the frost of autumn lays low the bravest of them all. This battle of the flowers is in the summer. Just now it is different. The fences are brown and bare, but the air is filled with promise. The ground flowers are thrusting their spears through the soil and mother earth is fast warming her children into being.

In one of the apple trees is a dismantled robin's nest that last year was



BUILDING THE NEST.

the home of a happy family. Nothing but the foundation now remains, but so firmly is it anchored with bits of twine wound round and round the supporting branches, that the blasts of winter have failed to tear it from its moorings.

The heavy, wet snow of spring was falling when the robins began to build their eyry, but they kept to their task in spite of wind and weather, fashioning their nesting place with skilled beak and claws. Dame Robin was the builder; Mr. Robin foraged for the materials. These were pieces of string, soft grasses and fluffs of down that he gathered from some mysterious store-house and carried to his mate, who inspected them closely, now and then rejecting something she considered unsatisfactory, scolding her helper, as if telling him that he ought to have known better.

On a twig overhead huddled some solemn, round-eyed sparrows, observing closely the operations going on beneath. When the carpenters flew away, they hopped down to make a grave tour of examination, but were sure to scurry back to their roost when they saw the industrious pair returning. Those wise men of Gotham never relaxed their vigil as long as the robins were at their labors, but when the home was completed, lo, and behold, the overseers and workmen flew away, leaving the nest lonely and deserted. Occasionally Madame Robin came to call, and busied herself about her house, picking at the walls, re-arranging the lining and trying it this way and that to see how it fitted her figure. When it did not fit, she tried other positions, and used her claws to kick it into a proper condition.

Time passed along and one fine morning three blue-green eggs lay within the downy cradle. Dame Robin was out for an airing when her property was discovered, but when she returned, with a flip of her tail and a saucy perk of her head, she took those who were watching to mind their own business.

At first the little housewife took sitting very easy. She fidgetted about and was constantly stretching her neck to see what her neighbors were doing, and her toilet received a good deal of attention. But at last she grew very quiet and patient, and seldom left her home duties. Her mate was a "good provider," and neither grew to feel his faithful Joan with praiseworthy regularity. When she heard him coming she established herself on one side of the nest, and Mr. Robin perched himself on the other with a succulent worm in his beak, or some dainty tidbit that appeals to bird palates. From this source of supply Dame Robin nipped off tiny morsels, and if the food chanced to drop from the hold of her lord, he quickly picked it up, and with a courteous bow, restored it to his wife, who was inclined to be haughty and querulous.

Family affairs moved on in this manner until three young robins, all mouths and no feathers, had broken from their prison. At once there was a grand house-cleaning time, and the babies were hustled out of the way, until the domain was free from all litter, then the proud mother bird sat on her offsprings in approved mother-bird fashion.

Father Robin's responsibilities were greatly increased, for his children had tremendous appetites, and, like Oliver Twist, were always crying for more. It soon took the united efforts of both father and mother to keep those gaping mouths filled. They never seemed to be satisfied, and unless "Ma Robin" was sitting upon them, three yellow, wide-open beaks waved from the top of the nest, beseeching for what goods the gods might bestow. One day there was a fierce hail storm, and Mrs. Robin turned herself into a roof to shelter her nestlings. With her head facing the northcast, and her wings outspread, she hovered low, bearing the brunt of the tempest, wincing when the hail stones pelted her tender body, till the leaves, mercifully broken from the trees, covered her and gave her some protection. When the storm was over and the sun shone out in its glory, the brave mother arose from her cramped position, preened her dripping feathers and pouncing upon her children, stirred them up well to see if they were still alive and uninjured.

The first break in the family circle came when one adventurous youngster, proud of his new speckled bib, climbed too far out of the nest and fell to his death. A white cat that had been prowling about could, if it would, solve the mystery of the adventurer's complete disappearance.

"Wake, wake," the robins called one morning early. The sun had not yet risen, and over the grass the dew was spread with a sheen like frosted silver. Through the still, clear air, so fresh and sweet, sounded strong and clear the "wake, wake" of the robins.

"Wake, wake," they trilled; "something is going to happen."

The "something" was already happening, for the apple tree children were leaving home and a bird congress had assembled to watch the first flight of the fledglings. One had safely reached the ground and his mother was fluttering over him, winging back now and then to the timorous youngster who clung to a limb of the tree afraid to venture into a world which seemed to him filled with unknown dangers.

After continued parental persuasion, he finally made the fatal plunge, and landed with a thud that knocked all the breath out of his body.

Oh, then and there was hurrying to and fro and shrieks and wails of anguish, and when a human giant seized upon the prostrate one the clamor increased in volume. The robins went mad with fear and circled wildly about, screaming with terror. The shy little yellow birds twittered and chirped excited chorus, while a mob of dusty sparrows sitting on top of the fence "chortled" in unholy glee till they tumbled down into the grass where they began to "scrap" after their vulgar, street-gamin manner.

All at once the bereaved parents were reconciled to their loss and coaxed their sole remaining child away to a place of safety. Then was silence among the apple trees. The other birds had flown, and the wounded young robin was taken into the house to be nursed back to health if possible. But alas and alack! those who had him in charge could think of nothing to do but to feed him, and they overestimated his capacity. Meekly he accepted soft-boiled egg, followed with a dessert of worms without number. When he could eat no more he was laid to rest in a strawberry box, and in a few short hours his little soul had gone on its upward way.

The nest in the apple tree has never again been a home. Shortly after it was vacated an inquisitive oriole came to look over the premises, but evidently it did not please his fastidious fancy, for after examining it outside and in he tried to pick it to pieces. Failing in this he gave it a few last vicious pecks, scrolled some liquid notes of scorn and derision, and sailed away to seek more congenial surroundings.

The bird castle has fallen to ruin, but the apple trees still hold out entreating, inviting arms, and perhaps, when the leaves unfold and the blossoms, like tinted snow, are filling the air with fragrance, the robins will come once again to nest in the old orchard's shelter.

ELIZABETH AYRES.

Heiskell's Ointment

Cures Skin Troubles When Everything Else Has Failed.

Try it on an obstinate case of Tetter, Erysipelas, Eczema, Pimples, Ulcers, Itching Worm, Blotches or any Skin Disease. Ask your druggist for it. By mail for a box. Heiskell's Soap, for the skin, 25c.

JOHNSTON, HOLLOWAY & CO., 531 Commerce Street, Philadelphia.

"I And Heiskell's Ointment one of the greatest remedies for skin diseases I have ever used."—Nellie M. Burdette, 19 Lovell Street, Charleston, West Va.

The Cozy Corner:

—An excellent idea for clubs in small towns is to establish a "Reciprocity Bureau." By this means the papers read in the stronger societies can be of benefit to the weaker ones, these papers being sent from one to another which may be interested in the same line of work.

It often happens that a woman will spend hours, and even weeks, in reading up data for some subject, and if this comprehensive paper can be used for the benefit of more than her own club, the good it does will, of course, be much greater. In small towns where there are not the facilities for such research, this plan would be especially helpful, as it would bring the best workers more closely in touch with each other and stimulate interest.

The Woman's Club of Brooklyn, N. Y., has sent through its Reciprocity Committee, requests for the best papers on any given subject, from clubs all over the country. These will be kept on file and circulated among the weaker circles whenever requested.

A federation of clubs and societies in every town or village, would result in much good by consolidating the work.

Speaking of club work, Harper's Bazar has this to say of the nervous wreckage that is so conspicuous among club women:

"It is undoubtedly a good thing for most women, even though they be busy mothers of families, to have at least one interest outside of their homes. There is a point, however, where the acceptance of further work and responsibility becomes a grave mistake. One should have courage to fix this point and refuse politely, but firmly, to go beyond it.

"A woman who is on six committees is only one-sixth as useful, usually, as she ought to be, or else she is doing six women's work and getting ready for a break down. No woman can do these things successfully, and yet, nearly every able woman considers it an attainable condition for herself, and the nervous wrecks as we see around us, is largely due to this optimistic belief. Not until woman has learned to say 'No,' gently, but firmly to the urgings of the Time-Spirit, and takes a strictly limited course of electives in social and public work instead of the whole curriculum, will the nervous specialist cease to reap his harvest."

"My flesh is becoming a burden, what can I do to reduce it?" is the text of many letters received. A general rule may be given for such cases, though none that will apply to all, for the same things, if eaten or drank by two persons may produce different effects. For instance, drinking cold water will cause an accumulation of flesh for some, and have an entirely different effect upon another.

In order to reduce the flesh, one should abstain from all fats, sugar and starchy foods, eating as little of any food as is consistent with health and strength.

A proper diet for this effect would include nearly all vegetables, soups, lean meat, the white meat of fish and fowl, tomatoes, etc. For drink, hot water, coffee and cocoa without sugar or cream, and fruit juices may be used.

There is no danger of one's starving, even though one may fast to a considerable extent, and this is really the only cure for obesity, but to know just what to eat and what to deny one's self, must be a matter of personal experience.

CONTRIBUTED BY YOUNG COOKS

A pretty little girl, 13 years old and in her second year of manual training, has just handed the Cook a plate of cookies as a sample of her work. Crisp, tender, and very toothsome, they would do credit to a much older cook, and are conclusive proof that the practical benefit of the cooking school is no longer a matter of experiment.

Oatmeal Cookies.

One cupful of shortening, one cupful of sugar, two eggs, four tablespoonfuls of milk, three-fourths tablespoonful of soda, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, one-half teaspoonful of salt, two cupfuls of flour, two cupfuls of dry, rolled oats, one cupful of chopped raisins. Sift salt, soda and spices with flour and mix the other ingredients in the order given; drop by spoonfuls on a well-greased tin and bake in a quick oven.

GRACE BENNIS.

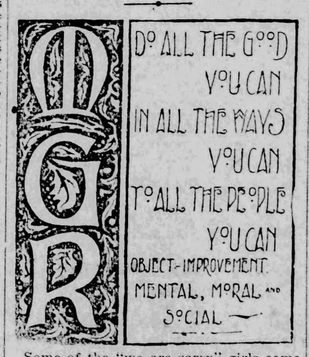
Horseradish Sauce.

Chill one cupful of sweet cream and beat it until it is stiff enough to hold its shape; add one-half teaspoonful each of salt and pepper, three tablespoonfuls of prepared, or two of freshly grated horseradish, two tablespoonfuls of vinegar and one of sugar. Keep in a cold place, as it should be thick when used.

Orange Pie.

To one cupful of orange juice, add the grated rind and pulp of one small, or one-half large orange. Cream one tablespoonful of butter, with one, or one-half, cupfuls of sugar—according to the sourness of the orange—add the yolks of two beaten eggs and two tablespoonfuls of cracker crumbs soaked in half a cupful of milk. Bake with one crust and cover with a meringue made of the whites of the eggs and two spoonfuls of sugar.

"IRMA."



Some of the "we are sorry" girls came in this morning, and, of course, are welcome, as Miss Prudence and her M. G. R's, believe in the "seventy times seven" limit of forgiveness for even greater "swervings from duty" than any of our number are as yet guilty of.

The first to knock at our door is "Blythe Andrea," Iowa, who thus apologizes and promises:

Dear friends:—Here comes a "prodigal daughter," asking forgiveness for here neglect of duty, and for re-admission to the M. G. R. She is truly sorry and promises to do better in the future, in proof of which she pledges herself to write for you a description of the Iowa Soldiers' Home, if you care to hear about it.

Yes, "Tennessee Coon," I read my Bible every day, and try at all times to do "whatever He would have me to do."

Will some one please open the door for me, as I am ready to go home?

Next comes "Cara Mia," once of Iowa, but now a citizen of the "Silver state:"

Dear M. G. R's., will it do any good if I say I am heartily ashamed of having been so neglectful of my duty? If so, I say it very sincerely.

The last time I wrote, I told you I was coming to live among the mountains of Colorado for a time. This place is a camp in the midst of the richest mining country in the west. We are surrounded by the Rockies, some of them always snow-capped, others covered with brush and little trees, and still others dotted with mines. Among the most famous mines near here is the "Molly Gibson," of which you may have heard.

I am employed in a hospital where eight hours is considered a day's work, which gives me ample time to enjoy the scenery. Having always lived in the east, of course I find much that is very interesting here. I have climbed to the top of a mountain—a small one—have driven over a real mountain road, picnicked in a lovely little canyon and ridden on a Rocky Mountain Canary, as the funny-looking, little burros are called.

Have we any members of the M. G. R. in Colorado? I would like to exchange experiences with them.

"S. E. W. H.," Maine, one who has never failed in her duty to the M. G. R., sends a suggestion for future work and an Easter greeting:

Why would it not be a good idea if we were to send a brief biographical sketch each month of noted persons whose birthdays occur in that month, or some short selection from their works. I send this for my April offering:

"O dearest bloom the season's know,
Flower of the Resurrection, blow,
Our hope and faith restore.
And through the bitterness of death, and loss, and sorrow,
Breathe one breath of life forever more.

"The memory of life immortal blends,
With fond remembrances of friends.
In you, O, sacred flowers,
By human love made doubly sweet,
The heavenly and the earthly meet,
The heart of Christ, and ours."
—J. G. WHITTIER.

After giving an Easter greeting and good wishes to all, "Ettie," Ill., expresses a desire to make a closer acquaintance with "Illi Nois," and closes her letter with this inquiry:

I should like to know how many of the charter members survive, and think it would give us pleasure if Miss Prudence would print the list of the r names.

Owing to changes in the office force since the organization of the Merry-Go-Rounds, the complete list of charter members has been lost. Miss Prudence would be obliged if those who wrote for it during the first month of its existence, and those who came in with us when our doors were opened for the boys to join the circle, would send to her their names and addresses—present and past—that she may use them in the history of The Blade M. G. R., which she is preparing.

"Irma," Nebraska: If "John Smith" will favor the column with his photograph, taken while wearing his new campaign suit, I shall not be guilty of forgetting him, as I did "Sunflower Kid." For that, I ask his pardon, hoping that it will be granted without my taking the "J. Smith position."

I acknowledge that boys are the salt of the earth, and too sweet for anything, but, in boys, as well as in bees, I think we all prefer the workers instead of the drones, or even the hornets.

"Isabel," if your pen is broken, I will gladly lend you mine, so we may have another of your good letters.

"Miss Prudence, and you know that the "Erie the Red", of this valley has departed for a two years' course of study in the east? We had a very enjoyable time at his farewell reception.

The Blade Cook wishes the Chaperone to thank this correspondent for the recipes she sent, and to say that the others she mentioned will be very welcome if forwarded immediately.

THE MEMORY OF MARTHA.

Out in de night a sad bird moans,
An', oh, but hit's moughty lonely;
Times I kin sing, but mos' I groans,
Fu' oh, but hit's moughty lonely.
Is you sleepin' well dis evenin', Marfy dear?
W'en I calls you fom de cabin, kin you hyeah?
'Paint de same ol' place to me,
'Suffin's lak hit used to be,
W'en I knowed dat you was ailus some'ers near.

Down by de road de shadders grows,
An' oh, but hit's moughty lonely,
Seems lak de ve'y moonlight knows,
An', oh, but hit's moughty lonely!
Does you know, I's cryin' fu' you, oh my wife?
Does you know dey ain't no joy no mo in life?
An' my only t'ought is dis,
Dat I's hom'in' fu' de bliss
Fu' to quit dis groun' o' worriment an' strife.

Dah on de bald my banjo lays,
An', oh, but hit's moughty lonely;
Can't even sta't a chune o' praise,
An', oh, but hit's moughty lonely!
Oh, hit's moughty slow a-waitin' hyeah below.
Is you a-shinin' fu' me, Marfy, at de do'?
Ef you is, in spite o' sin,
Dey'll be sho' to let me in,
W'en dey sees yo' face a-shinin', den de devil knew.
—Paul Laurence Dunbar, in The Bookman.

Hints to Housekeepers.

Colanders of china, or rather of yellow ware, are to be preferred to those of tin or other metal. Their use for purees and delicate jellies is specially serviceable, the tin often imparting a disagreeable flavor.

Creamed fish or fowl may be satisfactorily combined with rice. Fill timbale moulds with boiled rice and set them aside to cool. When the rice is cold scoop out the inside, turn out from the moulds, and fill the hollow centers of the moulded rice with the creamed meat.

Flimsy silk that has gone into a multitude of age wrinkles may be smoothed out and restored to something like its original freshness by sponging it with gum arabic water. Sponge the right side of the silk, and when it is almost dry iron the wrong side.

A delicious flavor may be given to coffee by rubbing the lump of sugar which sweetens it over orange or lemon rind. People who like the slice of lemon in their tea will appreciate a slice of lime instead, which will give a deliciously piquant flavor.

Onions in any appetizing form are well adapted to the spring bill of fare.

THE PAN-AMERICAN VISITOR.

What Shall She Wear?

Having a pleasant remembrance of her experience at the great Chicago Exposition, Miss Pink decides that she will attend the Pan-American Congress at Buffalo this year. To be sure, she is a trifle older, which will make sight-seeing more laborious, but to offset this she has the advantages of former experiences which will enable her to visit more judiciously, and with a great saving of time and strength, the various exhibits that will await her inspection.

Having settled the most important item—that of ways and means—her next thought is what to wear.

There was a time when a woman thought it proper to use any old gown she had for her traveling suit, lest a better one be spoiled, but that day has passed, and the improvements in modern travel make it possible and imperative that she shall be as careful and dainty with her traveling costume as for her street or reception gown.

There is no longer need for a tourist to envelop herself from head to foot in a bag of a linen "duster," though for an extended journey, or a sea voyage, a long coat is very convenient to carry, as it is easily slipped on and off and covers a multitude of omissions, if one does not feel well enough to make a full toilet.

For traveling and hard service there is really but one truly suitable dress, and that is the ever popular and becoming skirt and coat costume. The best material for this is mohair cloth, combining as it does, all serviceable qualities. It wears well, is light weight, sheds dust and will not spot, crinkle or shrink when exposed to the sudden showers and dreary, rainy days that must be expected.

The skirt should be cut street length; this makes a better appearance for general wear than the shorter "rainy-day" cut, and one wishes to look well, of course. It is better to line this with some light-weight material which will serve to hold it in place while not adding greatly to its weight.

The coat should be of heavier material or lined, so as to give the warmth, which is frequently needed in summer. The newest patterns of the Eton jacket are the most popular and desirable for this garment. With such a suit, Miss Pink may defy the elements, and go whither she pleases, conscious of being well and appropriately dressed.

Whatever material is used it should be thoroughly shrunk and sponged before making up, or else, with rain spots and dust, it will become one of the sights of the exposition.

With this suit can be worn separate waists made over a fitted lining, or the ever-dear shirt waist. If the fitted lining is chosen, the inner seams should be covered with casings of tape for the stays, which can then be removed for laundering. This style is preferred by ladies with stout figures, as it produces a neater appearance and by those who need a warmer waist.

The tailor-made shirt waist has taken first place this season, especially for traveling; the severity of style making it a favorite with those who pride themselves upon having a well formed figure. The back of the tailored blouse is perfectly smooth, fitting without a wrinkle, the front without fulness at the top, but drawn in at the waist with shirr-strings. A box plait with openings for large, fancy buttons finishes the front, and a stiff collar is worn, either of white or of the material. Other shirt waists are made with the Russian frout-opera-on the side; tucked all over in clusters, or plain; with or without yokes, and, indeed, in any way that is most becoming to the wearer.

A silk waist is the most economical for traveling, as it will save laundry bills and not lose its freshness and tone as do those of wash materials.

For a petticoat, our traveler, if she can afford it, will find one of taffeta silk the most soothing to her pride and consciousness of being perfectly dressed, but she can be very comfortable and happy with one made of mercerized sateen. Of this she will require five yards of material, which costs from 30 to 50 cents a yard.

If laundry bills have no terror for her, she will find the dainty pink and blue Chambrey petticoats very lovely. Seven yards of material is needed for these, and as much extra expense as is desired may be added in the way of lace and insertion to finish them around the foot. A good enough quality of this trimming can be bought for from 5 to 15 cents a yard. It is better, however, in making such a petticoat to have more rows of insertion and no edge, as this will soon fray out and look shabby.

For underwear, a lightweight woolen is best, as with it one is not so liable to take cold from the sudden changes of temperature met with in passing in and out the various buildings. Two pairs of shoes and one pair of easy slippers will be needed. One pair of heavy soled boots for the miles of walking that must be done and the addition of rubber heels to these will prevent the jarring and tiresomeness of walking beyond belief. A lighter pair for evening wear and the easy slippers to put on after the bath at night will relieve much of the fatigue that is the natural result of such days of travel.

Besides her traveling and general utility suit, Miss Pink will need at least one nice dress to wear at dinner, at the theater or in the evening at home. A summer silk, a grenadine, a lawn or organdie gown will be most suitable for this purpose and can be brightened up and varied with accessories of lace and ribbon, thus giving the wearer the satisfaction of knowing that she is well and appropriately gowned—a feeling impossible in the woman who appears in the same dress at dinner, that has borne the heat and burden of the day sightseeing. It is a fact that our garments need, and will give us better service, for having a rest occasionally.

As to hats, if she carries with her a trunk and has room for a "best" one she will have it for church, but for the theaters and all places of amusement the present fashion of removing the hat, will make it possible for her to wear the plain, serviceable one she has for common use.

The happiest woman who attends the Pan-American will be the one that has the least impediments in the shape of baggage; for one that, having decided to visit Buffalo at this time, does not carry with her a mind filled with vague and unnecessary anxieties as to how father and the children, the cows, chickens and pigs will "get along" without her at home. She knows that in case of serious sickness or accident she can be summoned at once, and so give her whole time and interest to making the most of her opportunities, losing none of the present pleasure by anticipating possible future disaster. To such a woman there will be both pleasure, profit and comfort—even amidst the rush and crowd of an exposition.

S. F. W.

PROBLEM OF THE PHILATELIST.

Barton West had two distinguished characteristics. He had the longest pair of legs and the finest collection of stamps of any boy in his native town. He was known throughout the length and breadth of the village as "the stamp fiend." There were other collectors, of course, for every boy collects stamps at some period of his boyhood, but Barton was prince of them all. Other boys contracted the fever, and in the course of time, recovered, but Barton's was a hopeless case. He spent most of his time buried soul and body—all but his legs—in the fascinating pages of his stamp album.

He begged stamps, he exchanged stamps, and when he could get them by neither of these methods he bought them.

"Barton," said his sister Mabel, "Counts that day lost, whose low descending sun
See no new stamp to add to his collection."
(with the accent on the 'shun').

Barton might and did wipe his inky pen on his handkerchief or on his trousers; he had been known to tie up the dog with his best tie, when nothing else came handy; and he even left his bicycle out at night, to be left or stolen, as the case might be; but his stamp album, though not especially valuable, was kept under lock and key, the pages were immaculate, and the stamps were arranged with mathematical precision.

Barton looked at everything with the eye of a stamp collector. If the sky were blue, Barton could think of no more suitable comparison than the blue of the background of the 1851 Franklin. The scarlet radishes for tea reminded him of the one penny Trinidad of '84, and the green of the summer foliage appealed to him most when it acquired the shade of the old three-cent Washington, to his mind the handsomest of all stamps. Mabel, in her commencement gown, knew that she might consider herself the recipient of a genuine compliment when Barton told her that she resembled the Canadian stamp of 1868.

Barton searched diligently daytimes for watermarks, secret marks, shades and variations; and he dreamed at night of finding trunks full of old letters, and documents fairly plastered with rare and valuable specimens of scarce issues.

"It wouldn't be safe," said Mabel on one occasion, "to send Barton to the drug store after cough syrup; he'd be sure to buy the dollar bottle, even if the fifty-cent one would do as well. It's a standing grievance with him that none of us have rheumatism, so that he can get a certain proprietary stamp that comes only with 'Dr. Somebody's rheumatism powders.' If he had lived right after the civil war, he would have wanted to mortgage the house in order to get the long revenue stamps off the papers.

"He can carry in his mind the date of every stamp issued in every country from Abyssinia to Zanzibar, though in school he couldn't remember the date of anything that happened prior to 1840, when the first stamp was issued."

"Good morning, Mr. Barton," said a familiar voice, above the whirr of the lawn mower one day.

"Oh, good morning, Mrs. O'Hagen," said Barton, with a friendly smile, for Barton was friendly with all the village. "Did you come to see mother?"

"Sure Oi didn't," said Mrs. O'Hagen, a poorly clad, shriveled up little old woman, whose head barely reached to Barton's shoulder. "'Tis a grand lady she is, that anybody'd be proud to see; but it's yersilf Oi'm wantin' to talk wid the day. It was goin' by Oi was, whin Oi was arristed be the music av yer steam peanny there, an' Oi shot Oi'd shop an' tell yez that Oi've got a bit av a stamp for yez, if ye'll be after callin' around, wan of these foine days."

"Are you going home now, Mrs. O'Hagen?" asked Barton, eagerly, dropping the lawn mower and making a dive for his coat. "Because if you are, I'll go right along with you."

"'Tis proud Oi'll be to have you," said Mrs. O'Hagen. "'Tis an awful hurry ye're in, wid thim foine, long legs," gasped his companion a moment later.

"Oh, I'm sorry," said Barton apologetically. "I'm afraid I was thinking more about the stamp than I was about you that time. I'll take shorter steps. Where did you find the stamp?"

"Shure," said Mrs. O'Hagen, "Oi was lookin' in me little attic wan day lasht week for a bit av shtove polpe. 'Tis a terrible hard place to crawl into, so 'tis all av tin years since Oi've claned the place up. Oi tho't, so long as Oi was wance in, 'twould be sinsible to tidy it up a bit."

"And the stamp?"

"Stamp is it? 'Tis nothin' at all but stamp wid the lad. Oi tho't Oi'd open me father's owld tin box, and take a peep at his snuff box, just for the sake av his mimory, whin Oi caught a glimmer av a bunch av shlips av paper, an' thin Oi tho't av ye and yer stamps. Only wan was in an invilip, and it was a foine fat letther, sint over 40 year ago, to me father be his Uncle Mike in Canady. Me oi-sight's terrible bad"—Mrs. O'Hagen would never admit that she was unable to read—"but Oi remimber when that letther came tellin' us all about the grand counthry up there, though Oi'd clane forgot all about it when ye wor askin' if Oi'd anny owld stamps at all fer that foolish book ye showed me wance."

"Come in," said Mrs. O'Hagen, throwing open her hospitable door. "Oi can mind the toime whin ye couldn't raich the knob on this door, and now look at the legs av yes."

"I'd rather look at that stamp."

"Oi belave yez," said his hostess. "'Tis here behind the ould clock. No, t'is not. Whist! where did Oi put that bit av paper at all? 'Twould be sad to bring ye here and foind no shtamp at all."

But the stamp was finally discovered inside the glass case which covered a waxen water lily on the parlor table.

"Why, Mrs. O'Hagen," said Barton, 'I have never seen a stamp like this. I believe it's a rare one."

"Oi, hope it is," said his hostess, cordially, "but rare or well done, 'tis yours; you're heartily welcome to't."

But Barton, though he knew the stamp was an old one, did not realize its full value until he attempted to locate it in his album.

"Great Scott!" he exclaimed, "that can't be the right place for it. Is it—no, it isn't perforated. Hurrah!" he shouted a moment later. "That stamp is worth $400."

There was no mistake about it. It was a lightly canceled copy of the most valuable of Canadian stamps, nothing less than one of the rare twelve cent black stamps of 1851.

For fifteen minutes Barton was the happiest boy in the state of Michigan. Then, like a flash, a doubt assailed him.

"She gave it to me," said Barton. "It is absolutely mine. She doesn't know one stamp from another. It wouldn't mean half as much to her as it does to me."

Strangely enough the idea of selling it did not occur to Barton. He would have thought as soon of selling his mother.

"I'll ask father what to do about it," said he, "Legally," said Mr. West, "that stamp is yours. Morally, it, or the price of it, belongs to Mrs. O'Hagen. I happen to know that she was on the point of applying to the town for aid last winter. You know what a proud little lady she is, and how it would hurt her to have to ask for assistance. But you are quite old enough to decide the question for yourself. Only remember, Barton, that the price of that little stamp would make Mrs. O'Hagen comfortable for the rest of her days."

"The price of it?" exclaimed Barton, "certainly," said his practical father. "You would sell it in any case."

"I hadn't thought of it," faltered Barton. But he thought of it then, and before night he had written to several dealers, asking what the stamp really was worth, almost hoping to find that he had been mistaken as to its value. At first he looked at it twenty times a day, but after a while it was observed that Barton refrained from looking at his album; but no one guessed that it was because the new stamp had suddenly grown distasteful to him.

By the end of the week the feeling had grown so strong, that he could not endure the touch of the key of the drawer in which he kept his book, so he removed it from his pocket.

Toward the end of the week he received the answers to his letters. He was offered various sums ranging from fifteen cents to three hundred and ninety-five dollars for the stamp.

Would he keep it? Would he sell it? If he sold it would he keep the money or give it to Mrs. O'Hagen. He thought so much about it that his brain and his conscience were all in a tangle.

"You want," said he, "to do all three things, and I want to do one just as much as I want to do the others. Most of all, I want that stamp. I wish somebody or something would settle it for me."

Barton laid his aching head against the cold radiator for comfort.

It was Mrs. O'Hagen's hen that settled it finally.

"'Tis me," said Mrs. O'Hagen, when Barton opened the door that afternoon, in response to an urgent ring. The color flew to Barton's face and fled again, leaving him pale.

"The stamp!" he gasped.

"Bother the shtamp, 'tis me trouble-some him. Would yez do a big kindness for an ould woman?"

"Of course I would," said Barton.

"Thin come wid me an' Oi'll explain on we go along. 'Tis like this: Oi've got wan hin, an' that hin lays wan egg ivery day fer me dinner, an' Oi dunno phativer Oi'll do without me egg, fer butcher's mate do be high, and Oi've no teeth to be chewin' it wid anyhow. But lasht avenin' O'Shaunessay's dog ken intil me yarrhd and chased me poor hin till the top av me roof, and the silly burrhd won't come down for all me coaxin'. There's no ladder in me neighborhood thot will raitch, so Oi thot av yer foine long legs."

"If Mabel could hear that," thought Barton, "she'd call me 'ladder' to the end of time."

Of course Barton rescued the hen, but he did something else for Mrs. O'Hagen that same afternoon. He sent the stamp in a registered letter to the dealer who had made him the best offer for it; and it would be hard to say which was the happier, Mrs. O'Hagen, or Barton, when the latter presented her the money.

"Of course," said Barton, "it was the one thing to do, but I can't see why I didn't discover that at once."—Carroll Watson Rankin in January American Boy.

"GOOD MORNING, MRS. O'HAGEN."

Newspapers an All-Around Blessing

I wonder how many comprehend the value of the newspaper? Not in its first estate merely, because of that there is no question. Of course, women fully value the newspaper in its first freshness, but how about it after they have gotten all they can from it in reading. Not all of them know its possibilities in its last estate. All old newspapers should be saved, folded neatly and given a place in the tool-chest, where they will be at hand when needed.

Moths do not like printer's ink, and there is no more secure way of disposing of the winter clothing than to pack it away in newspapers. The articles, whether woolen or fur, should be well beaten in the open air, to make sure that no egg is deposited already, then folded carefully and pasted closely in newspaper, so that there shall be no crack into which the insidious little insect may creep. By packing carefully in this way you will not need camphor, moth-balls, pepper or tobacco or any of the moth preventives so frequently recommended. If there is any trouble when the articles are unpacked in the autumn it will be because the miss-hief was done before the article was packed. This is written out of twenty-five years of experience, during which time no garment thus packed has been touched by the moth or the Buffalo-bug.—Woman's Home Companion.

OUR WONDER COLUMN.

For April.
ILLINOIS.

1—WHO WAS HE?

He was an eminent English landscape painter, born at Sudbury, in the county of Suffolk in 1727. It was said of him that "Nature was his teacher, and the woods his academy." At 14 years of age, he was sent to London to learn engraving. At 19 he married and set up in Bath as a portrait painter, in which branch of art he was very successful. On the institution of the Royal Academy he was chosen one of its first members, but never took much interest in its proceedings. He died August 2nd, 1788, of cancer in the neck. His last words exhibited more the enthusiasm of the painter than the logic of the theologian: "We are all going to heaven, and Vandyck is of the party."

ANISE.

2—BROKEN SQUARE.

By properly placing the following groups of letters in the form of a square a very important public document can be traced with pencil, by starting with "center" letter.

D E E R, I D E N T, N N D C A, E P C L A, F O N O I.

INDIANA.

3—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

If 6 lbs. of ice at a temperature of 32 degrees, is melted by the steam made from 1 lb of water, heated to 200 degrees, what will be the temperature of the 6 lbs. of water resulting, not allowing for waste of heat?

H. H. LEONARD.

4—CROSS WORD ENIGMA.

Found in "golden" but not in "rule."
Found in "chair" but not in "stool."
Found in "silver" but not in "gold."
Found in "buying" but not in "sold."
Found in "honor" but not in "knave."
Found in "stone" but not in "pay."
My whole is a part of "the land of the free, and the home of the "brave."

MAUD.

5—QUERY.

What is it of which it may be said that

A Bad Breath

A bad breath means a bad stomach, a bad digestion, a bad liver. Ayer's Pills are liver pills. They cure constipation, biliousness, dyspepsia, sick headache.

25c. All druggists.

Want your moustache or beard a beautiful brown or rich black? Then use
BUCKINGHAM'S DYE for the Whiskers

Answers to Puzzles of April 18.

1—Sir Charles Lock Eastlake.

2—Words forming double acrostic: Adowa, Upolu, Bedad, educe. Primals, Aube; finals, Asde.

3—The evening of July 4th, 1902.

4—Nathan Hale said: "My only regret is that I have but one life to give my country."

5—The word "Club" is allied to the German "kleben" to adhere, and is used to indicate a company met for some common purpose either of social, political, educational or literary nature. The modern clubs of London in which the dining-room is an important feature, originated after the termination of the great war of 1815. Many military officers being no longer needed for war, were placed upon half-pay which was insufficient to support them without careful economy. If they dined together at a "club" it was cheaper than for each to maintain a separate establishment. The first club of this sort was known as the "United Service Club." Similar clubs are now found in every city of any size in both hemispheres.

6—Quarl wrote:
"My heart being virtuous, let my face be worn
I am to God, I only 'seem' to man."

Chat.

Correct solutions were received from W. P. E., Old Dan Tucker, and Illi Nois.

Illi Nois, the Schoolmistress "read between the lines" in that note of yours, and published just what she thought you would want her to. Thank you for the Memorial pumies, they are the first in.

Old Dan Tucker; W. P. E. and Illi Nois have shared the honors of the bannership this year. The printer makes bad reading of the announcement occasionally, but generally the name of the winner for one month is given about the middle of the next, as the marking is only completed by that time.

Only two puzzlers have undertaken to make a sentence of the 26 letters of the alphabet. The Schoolmistress is surprised! We shall have the M. G. R's making remarks if this thing is allowed to go on!

Old Dan Tucker: "Newspapers are fallible, infallible, and liable to no loss or change in the lapse of ages. It is exempt from the caprices of fashion, and superior to the individual errors and infirmities of those through whose hands it is transmitted?

W. P. E.

6—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:
"If word of mine, another's gloom has brightened,
Through my dumb lips, the heaven-sent message came;
If hand of mine, another's task has lightened,
It felt the guidance that it dares not claim."

ILLI NOIS.

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BOARD APPOINTED

By the Empress Dowager --Not Liked by This Government.

Washington, April 26.—The following cablegram has been received at the state department from Mr. Squire, the United States charge at Pekin, dated to-day:

"The empress dowager has appointed a board of national administration to relieve her of her public functions. They embrace three members of the cabinet now with the empress at Sian-Fu, and Prince Ching, Viceroy Li, and Prince Kung, who are now in Pekin."

This news is regarded as of importance, indicating as it does the relinquishment by the empress dowager of the arbitrary powers she heretofore has exercised. It also is apparent that she has placed herself in a position to avoid direct responsibility to the foreigners for whatever may happen in the future the board will have to bear the brunt of any complaint. It is felt that the appointment of this board will make it much easier for the foreign ministers to transact business with the Chinese government.

The three members of the cabinet now at Sian-Fu include the notorious Jung-Lu, who was one of the most active in the outbreak against the foreigners last summer. One of the other members of this council is 70 years old and is said to be greatly debilitated. The third member has been at least lukewarm toward foreign interests. The choice of these three is looked upon as likely to complicate the good which Li Hung Chang and the others may accomplish.

JAPAN IN EARNEST.

Yokohama, April 12, via Victoria, April 24.—There is no doubt that Japan's deadly earnestness in her intention to draw the sword against Russia should the latter persist in designs upon Manchuria, has saved the situation in the far east. Everything was in readiness for striking the blow with every vessel in the navy in a condition of perfect efficiency, with a huge transport service thoroughly organized and with an army of 200,000 ready at a moment's notice, with the sentiment of the nation behind it. All of this was, of course, early known at St. Petersburg and it became the determining factor in bringing about Russia's back down. The latter has made a fatal blunder in her generally astute diplomacy.

A few weeks ago there was a general disposition to let her have Manchuria as a recognition of her manifest destiny, but her attempt to make a secret and independent treaty with China has made all that a thing of the past.

Japan is in no mood now to let the matter rest with the simple rejection of the Manchurian convention. Having pricked the bubble of Russia's pretension, and revealed the weakness of the northern power, it is most significant that 24 hours have not elapsed without an almost unanimous demand on the part of the press of this empire that it yet behder stand be taken and that Manchuria be in some definite way safeguarded for all time against Russian encroachment.

THE TREATY AGAIN.

London, April 26.—No definite decision has yet been reached by the foreign office here regarding the probable attitude of the United States Senate towards the projected Nicaragua canal treaty. The negotiations proceeding on the subject of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty in this connection are understood to be based on the sine qua non of neutrality of the canal. If this can be definitely assured it now seems likely Great Britain will agree to abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, though there is still the possibility of an endeavor on the part of Great Britain to simultaneously bring up the Alaskan boundary matter. The last contingency is officially described as being merely a question of policy not very likely to be pursued if the United States is content to make the canal neutral.

GERMAN EXPEDITION.

London, April 27.—A Reuter dispatch from Pekin says the headquarters staff has received a telegram from a British officer accompanying the Franco-German expedition to the effect that April 23 the Germans crossed into Shan-Si, through the Kuk-Kuan and Chang-Cheng Lin passes, in pursuit of the retiring Chinese, whom they followed eighteen miles, fighting a sharp action. The French troops remained in occupation of the passes. The Germans returned April 25 and the French handed over the passes to them and returned to their previous outposts. The Germans are said to have had four men killed and five officers and eighty men wounded. The Chinese loss is not known.

CARRYING THE PASSES.

Berlin, April 29.—Dispatches from Pekin show that the Germans had a difficult task in carrying the passes leading into Shan-Si province. The only approaches were steep mountain tracks, and the Chinese held commanding positions, from which they rolled huge rocks down the mountain sides on the advancing Germans. Besides many old guns, eighteen quick-firers were captured. The German losses were an officer and seven men killed and four officers and thirty-five men wounded.

GREAT RESPECT SHOWN.

London, April 29.—Describing the reverential respect shown for the bodies of the executed members of the Tsung Li Yamen yesterday when a procession a mile long passed through the settlements, the Shanghai correspondent of the Times says:

"It supplies a significant comment on Sir Robert Hart's description of Pekin conspiracy as a national anti-foreign rising."

WU'S INFORMATION.

Washington, April 29.—The Chinese minister to-day stated that all information reaching him shows that the imperial authorities are doing their utmost to avoid a clash between the Chinese forces and those under the foreign command. This applies not only to the province of Pechili, but also to Manchuria, and to the Yang Tse region. According to a recent report, an uprising of Boxers is being planned for the coming summer.

The thanks which Li Hung Chang has given to Mr. Rockhill for the course of the United States in the indemnity negotiations, is in line with similar thanks which Minister Wu has expressed to Secretary Hay, the Chinese authorities having taken occasion several times of late to make known their appreciation of American efforts to keep the total of indemnity down to a sum which China could reasonably meet.

A French Scheme.

Paris, April 26.—The Gasoulois affirms that General Bailloud and Col. Marchand, some time ago, contemplated an attempt to seize the Chinese empress and court. General Bailloud approached Col. Marchand, and asked him if he would undertake a certain enterprise which would very probably hasten the end of hostilities. The colonel replied that he was willing, and General Bailloud and Col. Marchand drew up a plan the character of which was venturesome but feasible. The diplomats, however, opposed the scheme, and it fell through.

Wireless Station.

London, April 24.—In consequence of the complaints of trans-Atlantic steamer companies, the board of trade has ordered a wireless signalling station to be erected at Fastnet Rock. Vessels fitted with the necessary apparatus will thus be enabled to save the time now consumed in communicating with the station of the mainland.

An Excellent Combination.

The pleasant method and beneficial effects of the well known remedy, SYRUP OF FIGS, manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO., illustrate the value of obtaining the liquid laxative principles of plants known to be medicinally laxative and presenting them in the form most refreshing to the taste and acceptable to the system. It is the one perfect strengthening laxative, cleansing the system effectually, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers gently yet promptly and enabling one to overcome habitual constipation permanently. Its perfect freedom from every objectionable quality and substance, and its acting on the kidneys, liver and bowels, without weakening or irritating them, make it the ideal laxative.

In the process of manufacturing figs are used, as they are pleasant to the taste, but the medicinal qualities of the remedy are obtained from senna and other aromatic plants, by a method known to the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only. In order to get its beneficial effects and to avoid imitations, please remember the full name of the Company printed on the front of every package.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N. Y.
For sale by all Druggists —Price 50c. per bottle

THE COPPER KING.

Senator Clarke's New Process Gives Him the Titie.

London, April 29.—Senator Clarke's visit to Europe is likely to confirm his claim to the title of "Copper King" in a way that he did not anticipate when he set out to round up the Rio Tinto mine into the new amalgamation. When he returns to America not only will he be in a position to disregard the opposition of the Calumet and Hecla mines, but he will be able to dictate terms to every copper foundry in the United States, if a certain deal goes through.

This deal means the acquisition by the Montana senator of a newly discovered process by which bars, sheets and tubes can be manufactured from the crude material almost at the pit's mouth. This will mean a saving of something like £20 ($100) per ton on the finished material.

The process is electrolytic and is closely analogous to the electrolytic refining method by which two hundred thousand tons of copper were refined in the United States last year. The new process uses the same amount of electrical energy per ton of metal as the old, but is worked at a rate ten times greater, and in making bar copper for subsequent melting a rate twenty times greater is said to have been successfully used.

The manufacture of copper articles direct from the crude metal has long engaged the attention of inventors, in view of the enormous profits accruing. Many attempts have been made, but hitherto all alike have been unsuccessful, or only partially successful. The new process is said not only to overcome the known difficulties, but by an ingenious contrivance, automatic in its action, to have effected a marvelous improvement over all methods heretofore known.

Stripped of scientific verbiage, the new process amounts simply to this:—Where formerly, or, rather, at present, it requires many days to convert the raw material into sheet copper, which has to be subsequently put through an expensive process to produce the finished article, the new process will turn out the finished article be a single operation.

British and Canadian rights have already been secured by syndicates, and it is understood that Senator Clarke has the option on the American rights, the purchase price running into six figures.

ARMY APPOINTMETS.

Washington, April 25.—The Secretary of War has made public a list of nearly five hundred young men who have been selected for examination for appointment as second lieutenants in the regular army, as it is to be conducted under the new reorganization law. Twenty-six of them are credited to the state of Ohio, and of these, one is a Toledoan.

In making the selections the qualifications and fitness of the men were placed above all other considerations. Every man is now in the volunteer army or served during the war with Spain, and his military record is satisfactory to the President and the Secretary of War. It is expected that in most cases those designated will pass the examination, and thereupon they will be formally appointed, their tenure of office being for life.

GEN. LUDLOW ILL.

Manila, April 26.—Owing to his illness the appointment of Brigadier General William Ludlow, to be military governor of the department of the Visayas, has been revoked. A board of surgeons has made an examination, and reports that General Ludlow suffered from an attack of grippe and localized congestion, which has developed into a dangerous case of tuberculosis.

General Ludlow will return to the United States by the first transport.

MRS. HARRISON ACCEPTS.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 27.—Mrs. Benjamin Harirson yesterday filed with Probate Commissioner Walker formal notice of her intention to accept the provisions of the will of the late General Harrison.

By the terms of the will she is to receive $15,000 in cash, the summer home in the Adirondacks, the use of the home in North Delaware street and the interest on $125,000 during her life. After her death the last two bequests revert to the residuary estate.

Under the Indiana law she might have demanded one-third of the entire estate which is valued at $375,000. She has never entertained any intention of doing so, however, her representatives say. The Union Trust company, as administrator, will at once proceed with the settlement of the estate.

AGAINST OUR COTTON.

Tacoma, Wash., April 29.—The steamship Copack brings news that the shipments of raw cotton from the United States to the Orient will be greatly affected by commission purchases of Bombay cotton, just made by the Cotton Spinners' Union, embracing the largest cotton manufacturers of Japan. Their agents have bought 250,000 bales to be shipped within the next few months. Of this quantity, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will carry 100,000 bales at 12 rupees a ton. Many manufacturers intend to mix Bombay with American cotton, while others will use the former exclusively. It is laid down in Japan cheaper than American cotton.

AGAINST AMERICA.

Germany Is Arming for a Brush With Us.

London, April 27.—Germany is preparing for war with the United States. This is the keynote of many warning articles issued by the British press. A sensational editorial along this line appeared yesterday in the Saturday Review. The immense expansion of the German navy is pointed out as a sure sign that the kaiser is preparing for offensive and defensive measures with a power who must be principally reckoned with upon the sea.

It is asserted that the growth of the navy in Germany is not along the line of vessels fitted to carry large bodies of troops for landing as would probably be done if England was the object of attack, but that the type of vessel most in evidence is the speedy cruiser and the new submarine vessels of which so much is heard. With the navy forming, the article declares that the battlefields are not far to seek, and that they will be on the shores of Brazil and China.

The Review gives a page to a description of the resources of South America and the hundreds of thousands of German settlers who are now in Brazil and Chili. Furthermore, the article points out that these settlers, many of whom are in actual if not nominal control of huge provinces, are eager to take matters in their own hands, and that Germany must perforce protect them. This is contrasted with the cry of the United States, "American for the Americans," and fears are expressed that the Monroe doctrine will be the nucleus of the greatest war of modern times.

A concluding statement affirms that it would not be good policy for Great Britain to interfere in the matter or to oppose Germany's legitimate aims," and that an alliance with the United States "would not only be ludicrously absurd and in opposition to our own interests, but it would rightly arouse every other nation to a death struggle against a genuine Anglo-Saxon menace."

OUR CUBAN TRADE.

Washington, April 29.—In a recent statement given to the press by the division of insular affairs of the war department a considerable loss was indicated in the trade of Cuba with the United States for the first eight months of 1900 as compared with the same period of 1899. It is now explained by the division of insular affairs that in the statement above referred to the value of gold and silver coin and bullion was included in the total value of commerce between Cuba and the United States. Eliminating the coin shipments it is ascertained that instead of there being a decrease in the value of imports into Cuba from the United States there is an increase of $1,222,205 for the first eight months of 1900 over the same period of 1899. A comparison with the importation of merchandise into Cuba from the United Kingdom for the same period shows in increase in favor of 1900 of 38.5 per cent. and from Germany of 75.3 per cent. These per centums look formidable but it is said at the war department the amounts of increase are not so very large when they are considered in relation with the totals of importation, or in relation with the United States figures. These English and German figures are expected to continue to rise until the United Kingdom and Germany secure their proportionate shares of trade in Cuba, that is, in proportion to their shares in other tropical countries.

GRANT'S BIRTHDAY.

Galena, Ill., April 27.—Exercises in commemmoration of the seventy-ninth anniversary of the birth of Gen. U. S. Grant were held to-day in this city. Rev. Dr. Frank W. Gunsaulus was orator of the day. A special train bearing Dr. Gunsaulus and a party of guests arrived from Chicago shortly after noon. They were escorted by G. A. R. posts and hundreds of visiting delegations from surrounding towns.

At Turner Hall an immense audience gathered. President William Rippin, of the Grant Birthday Association, opened the exercises in a short speech.

Letters of regret were read from Mrs. General Grant, Mrs. Sartoris, Admiral Dewey, Chauncey M. Depew, Senator Allison and others.

Rev. Frank W. Gunsaulus, the orator of the day, in his address, said:

"We are worthy of the memory of Grant only when we have his magnanimity, straightforwardness, heroism and sense of justice toward the oppressed of every race. It is demoralizing for as to parade our shallow skepticism as to the value of emancipation and the necessity of honest suffrage for the negro in the presence of this great name and seek to simulate contentment as to the condition of the freedmen when the thunder of his uncompromising righteousness fills our ears. Justice must be done to the negro who has the ballot in his hands, and the franchise must be protected, or we must at last sink into abysses of hypocrisy, with Grant's monument casting a shadow over us. Our American life needs now, as never before, to emulate the man who was as gentle as he was strong, who never knew how to boast, and who believed in the simplicity of righteousness. It was Grant who prevented the republic from breaking its moral contract made by the greenback, and it will be the American spirit such as we saw then incarnated in Grant, at a moment when dividends were counted more precious than honor or manhood, which shall now redeem our pledges to the negro, who was as effective as the green back in helping to purify our flag.

"When Grant sent Sheridan to Louisiana to carry justice to the negro, his was a republicanism which must always believe that a flag worthy of respect will protect its citizens, black or white, from outrage and wrong. It will require a stern heroism at the north to beat back a wave of supercilious and unmanly prejudice against the negro which will as practically deprive him of his civil rights as that same prejudice once enslaved him to the south. So long as state sovereignty may annul constitutional amendments and destroy the liberty or threaten the ballot of an American citizen, be he black or white, we are utterly unworthy of the memory of Ulysses S. Grant. His spirit alone makes us a nation."

MARCONI ENGAGED.

New York, April 27.—Miss Josephine Bowen Holman, of Indianapolis, a daughter of the late Justice J. A. Holman, of the Indiana supreme court, and a cousin of the late Congressman W. S. Holman, of Indiana, said last night that the report that she was engaged to Guglielmo Marconi, the inventor of wireless telegraph, is true. Signor Marconi is now on his way to Europe, and it is said that the marriage will be in the autumn.

Miss Holman is now living in this city with her mother and sister.

No Mails on the Rio.

Washington, April 25.—The postmaster general to-day received a report from Superintendent Robinson, of the United States postal station in China, confirming his previous announcement that no mail from there was lost when the steamer Rio de Janeiro sunk at the entrance to San Francisco bay on Feb. 19, last. Inquiry through the imperial Japanese postal authorities show that all mail received at Nagasaki that might has been forwarded by the wrecked steamer, had previously been dispatched by a military transport to the United States and none was sent by the Rio.

PISO'S CURE FOR
CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.
Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.
CONSUMPTION
25 CTS.

Have You Got Rheumatism?

You Can Be Cured; FREE.

A Scientific Discovery Which Will Revolutionize the Treatments of Rheumatism.

It is now possible to be cured of any form of rheumatism without having your stomach turned upside down or being half choked to death and made to vomit, and every sufferer from rheumatism should welcome this new and marvelous discovery with open arms and give it an honest trial. John A. Smith, Milwaukee, Wis., while apparently hopelessly sick with rheumatism, hit upon a combination of drugs and his generous enough to send it free to every sufferer who writes at once. It is a home treatment and will not keep you from your work.

As you know, if you've tried them, every so-called rheumatic remedy on the market to-day, except this genuine cure, will cause you violent stomach pains and vomiting, and some of them are so dangerous they will cause heart trouble. And the worst of it is they never cure. When a person has rheumatism the constitution is so run down that he should be very careful what he puts into his stomach.

therefore gives me pleasure to present a remedy that will cure every form and variety of rheumatism without one single unpleasant feeling. That remedy is "GLORIA TONIC."

Before I decided to tell the world about the discovery of "Gloria Tonic" I had it tried on hospital and sanitarium patients with perfect success. But some people never will believe anything until they know it from experience, so the best and quickest way is for you to write me that you want to be cured and I will send you a trial box of "Gloria Tonic" free of cost. No matter what your form of rheumatism is—acute, chronic, muscular, inflammatory, deformant, sciatic, neuralgic, gout, lumbago, etc., "Gloria Tonic" will surely cure you. Do not mind if other remedies have failed you, nor mind if doctors say you are incurable. Mind no one, but write to-day sure. "Gloria Tonic" will stop those aches and pains, those inflammations and deformities, and cure you so that life will again be worth living. This offer is not for curiosity seekers, but is made to rheumatics only. To them I will send "Gloria Tonic" free.

Never before has a remedy been so highly endorsed as "Gloria Tonic." Among the eminent people who recommend its properties and say it positively will cure rheumatism is

DR. QUINTERO, of the University of Venezuela, whose endorsement of Gloria Tonic bears the official seal of the United States Consulate.

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT of London, England, prior to sending it into that country, made a thorough investigation of its ingredients with the result that it is admitted without any restriction, thus it can not contain poisons or worthless drugs.

A MEDICAL JOURNAL writes: Gloria Tonic possesses all the qualities desired by Dr. Haig to alter the acid and thus create a new epoch in the practice of medicine, hence Gloria Tonic should receive recognition from the medical profession and health journals throughout the United States.

If you are a sufferer send your name today and by return mail you will receive a trial box of "Gloria Tonic" and also the most elaborate book ever gotten up on the subject of Rheumatism, absolutely free. It will tell you all about your case. You get "Gloria Tonic" and this wonderful book at the same time, both free, so let me hear from you at once, and soon you will be cured. Address, JOHN A. SMITH, 1980 Germania Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis., U. S. A.

BOER PRISONERS

To Be Sent to Bermuda. The People Excited.

Hamilton, Bermuda, Thursday, April 25.—There is considerable excitement at present in Bermuda over the expected arrival of 1,700 Boer prisoners.

The British government has leased "Darrell's island," one of the largest islands in the sound and within a quarter of a mile of Warwick shore, for one year, with the option of relinquishing it on a month's notice. Tucker's island has also been inspected, but up to April 24, no definite settlement had been made in regard to it.

The army officials are, as usual, very reticent and nothing can be learned from them on the subject, but as the blacksmiths of the town have been sounded as to their ability to construct several hundred yards of iron fence, very strong, close, high, and with spike points, and as the plans which one or two have seen are said to be the outline of one of the islands, very little doubt is entertained as to the object in view by the government. It is claimed that had Darrell island not been wanted for the prisoners but for several hundred British laborers who are going to build the new swing bridge to connect the dock with the mainland, no such iron fencing would have been required, and the negotiations for Darrell island would have been made by the naval authorities, whereas, everything is being done by army officials.

Bermudians are not feeling very comfortable over the matter. The island is still garrisoned by the colored regiment, the First West India, and their behavior is by no means calculated to inspire the confidence of the people they are supposed to guard. It is hoped that a very strong force of European soldiers will be sent with the Boers, or matters, it is feared, may be as uncomfortable as they were recently at St. Helena.

HARRASSING THE BOERS.

London, April 29.—Lord Kitchener continues the process of wearing down the Boers who, however, are very active in the Kroonstad district where they recently derailed two trains and also captured, after a severe fight, twenty-five men of the Prince of Wales light horse whom they stripped of their horses and accoutrements and then liberated.

BAGGED MORE BOERS.

London, April 29.—Lord Kitchener reports to the war office from Pretoria, under date of April 28, as follows:

"Kitchener's fighting scouts, under Grenfell, have surprised and captured Van Rensburg's laager at Klipdam, north of Pietersburg. Seven Boers were killed and 37 taken prisoners. Eight thousand rounds of ammunition and all the wagons, carts, oxen, horses and mules were captured. Our only casualty was one wounded.

"The other column reports three killed, 58 taken prisoners, 57 surrendered and one quick-firer captured."

BOERS ARE WEARY.

London, April 27.—Mr. Henry W. Massingham, writing in the Daily News, says:

"The Boers are greatly worn and harassed and they yearn for settlement, but they will not trust any settlement on Chamberlain-Milner terms. They would, however, surrender the whole Johanesberg and Rand gold fields district to Great Britain on condition that independence was restored to the Orange Free State and that the Transvaalers were allowed to found a republic in the wild, uncultivated north, subject to British control of foreign affairs."

GOV. CANDLER'S DENIAL.

Atlanta, Ga., April 29.—Governor Allan D. Candler made a statement yesterday to The Associated Press regarding his reported utterances at Savannah, on the negro question, which were sent to many northern papers. The governor says that his remarks, as published first in a Savannah paper, are substantially correct.

"However, said the governor, "the statement that I said that 'the people of the south did not need, did not want and would not have the assistance of the damned Yankees in this matter,' as published in some papers, is absolutely false."

KIDNAPERS OFFER

To Refund Mr. Cudahy's Money if He Will Drop the Case.

Omaha, Neb. April 30.—An unknown person purporting to be an agent of the kidnapers, has made a proposition to Edward A. Cudahy to return $21,000 of the money paid for the ransom of his son who was abducted December 18 last. The offer demanded in return a withdrawal of the $25,000 reward and a cessation of the search that is being prosecuted, the abandonment of the determination to punish the criminals.

This proposition came in a letter from Elgin, Ill., and Mr. Cudahy is convinced of its authenticity. He went to Chicago recently because of it, being summoned there by his brother, in response to overtures that had been made. Mr. Cudahy has refused to consider the proposition and declares his intention to prosecute the search to the end.

"I received a letter about ten days ago," said Mr. Cudahy, "It was dated April 15, at Elgin, and bore the Elgin postmark. I have turned it over to the detectives and did not make a copy. It was very brief and recited that the chief kidnaper had communicated with the writer and was feeling uneasy. It set forth that the chase by the detectives was getting uncomfortably close and asked if I would withdraw the offer of reward now outstanding and let up on the effort to find the criminals and have $21,000 of the $25,000 ransom returned to me. It seems the writer got somewhat in a hurry, for as soon as he mailed the letter he went to Chicago where he called on my brother Michael the same day. Before I reached Chicago he had disappeared leaving directions as to how he could be reached."

Mr. Cudahy reiterated his determination to prosecute the search to the end.

CALLAHAN ACQUITTED.

Omaha, Neb., April 29.—After considering over Saturday night the guilt or innocence of James Callahan, the jury announced yesterday morning that he had no part in the kidnaping of Edward Cudahy, jr. The verdict was an evident surprise to the court, and Judge Baker expressed his disgust in emphatic terms.

Callahan was arrested on two other charges, which the state is not now prepared to say will be made use of, as no new evidence is at hand, and the expense of going over the ground again is considerable.

The jury notified Judge Baker at 9 a. m., that it had settled upon a verdict, and the news spread among the attorneys and interested persons, so that an audience of fifty awaited the twelve men as they filed into the court room. Callahan occupied his usual seat, and betrayed no apprehension as to the outcome. His face was a blank as he watched the verdict unfolded and read. As the words "Not guilty" were pronounced, however, Callahan half rose to his feet, his lips parted in a smile, and he turned his eyes gratefully toward the jury.

Judge Baker studied the wording of the verdict for several minutes in silence, as though he had doubted the evidence of his ears. Then, addressing the jury, he rebuked them in most vigorous terms.

"If Callahan had made his own choice of a jury," the court said, "he could not have selected twelve men who would have served him more faithfully. If the state, for its part, had made the selection, I know of no men it could have named who could have been less careful of its interests. The jury is discharged without the compliments of the court, and the prisoner is likewise turned loose as to this trial, I presume to continue the criminal practices in which you have failed to check him. I do not know what motive actuated you in reaching this decision, but I hope none of you will ever appear again in this jury box."

The jury evidently was ill at ease during this arraignment, but did not make any response, and filed rapidly from the box as soon as it was at liberty. In the hallway, Callahan mumbled his thanks and shook the jurymen's hands.

Chief of Police Donohue says he will urge Mr. Cudahy to at once withdraw the proffered reward of $5,000 for the apprehension of Pat Crowe.

"Crowe might easily make an appearance and claim the reward himself," said Chief Donohue, "as the evidence against him is no more direct than that against Callahan.

"There was not a single flaw in the testimony, and the evidence of guilt was overwhelming. From the information I have secured as to the sentiment of the jury, I believe that its decision was based largely on the theory that the victim of the affair was a wealthy man, and, as such, is able to suffer. Two of the jurors, I am informed, expressed their opinion that no kidnaping had occurred, and they had taken their oath as jurors with this conviction in their minds.

"I do not approve of any reward being offered in a case of this kind, and believe that it operated in the Callahan trial for the acquittal of the accused. Several times I heard the expression that the police had simply concerted a plot to send an innocent man to the penitentiary in the hope of securing the reward.

"The $50,000 offered for the conviction of the three men concerned in the crime, however, will stand."

ITALIAN CRIMINALS.

New York, April 29.—The Herald says: Italy is making the United States a dumping ground for her criminals and paupers. This fact has been forcibly called to the attention of the local authorities by the arrival in this port of three Italian brigands, whose depredations made them a scourge to the province in which they were reared. Despairing of being relieved in any other manner, the merchants upon whom they had preyed, made up a liberal purse, with which the three were sent to America, arriving here with money enough in their pockets to enable them to land unquestioned.

These three outlaws, who encountered no obstacle to bar them from entering this country, are now in Kansas City, Mo. Warning has been sent by Police Commissioner Murphy to the Kansas City police officials, who now have the Italians under a strict police surveillance.

After their arrival in New York the brigands lived in a quiet manner, meanwhile maturing their plans for a career of crime in the west.

Commissioner Murphy found that this is no isolated case.

"Italian criminals," said the commissioner, "are pouring to New York on every ship that brings immigrants. The popular belief that our laws bar out criminals and paupers is a mistaken belief; it may be that the Italian government has no part in the scheme, but it is still true that the United States is being made a dumping ground, receiving the cast offs from Italian prisons and pauper houses."

Wholesale Atrocities.

Vienna, April 29.—It is reported from Belgrade that the Albanians in old Servia are committing wholesale atrocities.

A MIGHTY POWER

THAT CURES DISEASE.

FREE It has been proved by actual tests that my new vitapathic treatment will positively cure diseases when all other methods fail. If you are sick, stop taking drugs that do not cure, write me to-day stating the leading symptoms of your disease and I will diagnose your case, tell you the exact disease from which you are suffering and prescribe, free of charge, a simple **home treatment** which I will guarantee to cure you. I will also send you a free copy of my new book entitled "How to get well and keep well." This book ought to be in every home. It teaches you a new science of healing based on the very vital principles of life itself. Address, Prof. Thos. F. Aiken, office 190 C, Rochester, N. Y.

Prevents Chicken Cholera

Cholera is the scourge of the hennery. And yet no fowl with a healthy liver ever fell a victim to cholera or any other contagion. Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine mixed in the food once or twice a week will keep a fowl's liver in a healthy state. Then an epidemic will be impossible. When given to chickens stricken in the earlier stages of the disease, Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine invariably cures. Try it on your poultry and see for yourself. One can will pay for its cost ten times over.

Leavenworth, Kans., Dec. 7, 1899.

Having recently purchased a can of Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine for my chickens, I write for your books on the diseases of stock. The Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine, however, is proving very beneficial to my chickens. I had lost one with Cholera and several more were sick at the time I got the can. I dosed them with a spoonful for two nights, besides giving them some mixed with their morning feed, and now they are getting perfectly well.

ANDREW NEUMEISTER.

If your dealer does not keep it, send 25c to the laboratory of the Chattanooga Medicine Company, Chattanooga, Tenn., and a half-pound air-tight can of Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine will be mailed to you. It cures all diseases of stock and poultry. For advice in cases requiring special directions, and an illustrated book on the treatment of stock and poultry diseases, address the manufacturers.

AN AFRIKANDER

Talks of Conditions as They Exist in Cape Colony.

London, April 25.—J. X. Merriman, the former treasurer of Cape Colony, and who is now a representative of the Afrikander bund in England, speaking at a meeting of the League of Liberals, yesterday, against aggression and militarism, said that the military law, the abnegation of all law, was established in Cape Colony. The newspapers had not heard of the treachery and espionage going on. Respectable people were committed on the evidence of natives alone. They were brought up and fined for harmless observations, called seditious, and the town guards barried them. These things created greater irritation and indignation than actual violence. The press was deliberately stopped, and four editors had been sent to jail. The fruits of this policy would be bitter, as the memory of these insults burned the hearts of the people.

Mr. Merriman detailed instances of punishment of the Dutch under military laws, usually on the testimony of natives and envelopes. He mentioned an instance of a "cheeky girl" being fined for saying things against the town guards. Martial law and the censorship throughout Cape Colony prevented the people of England from knowing the hardships of the Dutch. As an Englishman, Mr. Merriman said, he viewed the policy pursued in Cape Colony with the blankest disfavor. If persisted in, South Africa was lost to the British empire. The only thing that could save it was recognition; the people wanted self-government, and were determined to have it.

J. W. Sauer, the former commissioner of public works of Cape Colony, said the camps in which the Boer women and children were kept were guarded by sentries with loaded rifles and fixed bayonets. A majority of the women had been placed in them against their will. Their homes had been burned, and their possessions had been taken. He had tried to get the military authorities, through the government of Cape Colony, to permit 200 or 300 women and children camped at Port Elizabeth, to be liberated, food and shelter having been promised them by the town, but the military authorities refused the request.

Resolutions opposing annexation and crown government were adopted.

EX-SULTAN MOURAD.

Paris, April 29.—The French League of the Rights of Man has received a letter from the Ottoman liberal committee in Constantinople, appealing to the league to take up the propaganda for the release of former Sultan Mourad, who was deposed August 31, 1876, on the ground of ill health and mental incapacity.

The communication proceeds in part as follows:

"The deposed sultan is undergoing a martyrdom in prison at Tchiragan more cruel than the suffering of the victim of Devil's Island. He was imprisoned on the pretext of madness. He has not seen a human face, except that of his jailer, for twenty-seven years, nor a letter, a newspaper or book. He is not allowed to leave his rooms, and is thus buried in a living grave."

The committee urges that if he is really deranged, he should be treated scientifically.

Senator Trarieux, president of the league, who was very active in the agitation that resulted in the release of Dreyfus, has replied, assuring the Ottoman liberal committee of the sympathy of the league, and suggesting an appeal to the Turkish government.

RESTORING SIGHT.

Vienna, April 27.—An epochmaking discovery in the training of children who are born blind to see was achieved by Director Keller of the Institute for the Blind yesterday. He exhibited before the Physicians' Society a 7-year-old boy born blind, but with perfectly organized eyes—brain blind as the doctors call it—whom he taught to discern colors and the forms of objects and read with the eyes in fourteen months. He was induced to attempt the method because he had taught 72 deaf and dumb children with normal ears to hear and speak by working on the brain. The method consists in teaching the child in a perfectly dark room with one movable disc of light to distinguish the light from darkness, he being unable to see.

Perhaps this is developing in the highest degree a faculty of which the patient is not conscious. This takes months of patient treatment. Then objects which the blind child knows by feeling are placed against the light disk. The child is told what they are called. Then colored glass before a lamp teaches the child colors. Geometrical figures on the disc are shown and from this he passes slowly on to forming letters, after which reading is taught. Then the disc is removed and the objects are shown in a dark room with rays of light falling upon them. From this the sight is gradually accustomed to the daylight. Keller has received congratulations from all university and medical men who have heard of his method.

Stole Gun Secrets.

Paris, April 26.—An espionage calculated to create a certain sensation, was revealed yesterday by the arrest of a German in one of the large hotels on a charge of having communicated to Herr Krupp the secret of the manufacture of guns at the Commentry arms factory. It is alleged that the drawings and descriptions were supplied by four workmen, two of whom have been arrested.

Panic in Japan.

Yokohama, April 25.—Over twenty banks have suspended payment at Osaka and in the southern and central provinces. The Bank of Japan has assisted them, but further trouble is apprehended. A financial panic prevails.

Robbery in Paris.

Paris, April 27.—Three masked burglars entered the American Express company's office last night, surprised the sleeping watchman, gagged and bound him and escaped with 15,000 francs.

THE BLADE'S NEW OFFER

New Combination in Dinner Sets.

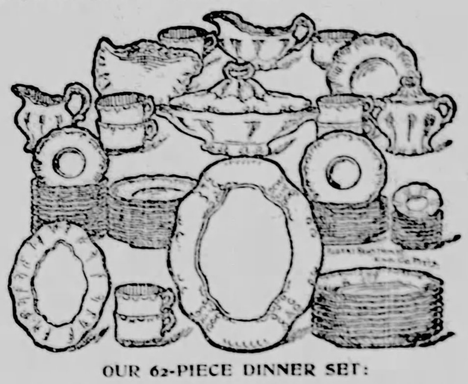
American Semi-Porcelain Ware—Handsome, Durable, Latest Designs in Shapes—Plain White and Decorated.

Every dish useful and practical. Combinations that meet the needs of every housekeeper—every family, small, medium or large, and at wholesale prices.

We offer both plain white and decorated.

Plain white china is very handsome, suitable for any table, any occasion.

Nos. 1, 2 and 3 have beautiful designs of vines and blossoms, in delicate shades of pink and green, with gold trimmings.



OUR 62-PIECE DINNER SET:

DESCRIPTION.

No. 1—6-piece Dinner Set—6 dinner plates, 6 pie plates, 6 cups, 6 saucers, 6 butter chips, 6 fruits, 1 covered vegetable (2 pieces), 1 gravy boat, 1 meat platter, 1 vegetable dish, 1 pickle, 1 sugar bowl (2 pieces), 1 cream jug.

Price, with Weekly Blade, one year:
Plain White $3.25
Decorated 4.50

No. 2—62-piece Dinner Set—8 dinner plates, 12 fruits, 8 pie plates, 8 butter chips, 8 cups, 8 saucers, 1 covered dish (2 pieces), 1 meat platter, 1 sauce boat, 1 vegetable dish, 1 pickle dish, 1 butter plate, 1 sugar bowl (2 pieces).

Price, with Weekly Blade, one year:
Plain White $3.50
Decorated 5.00

No. 3—106-piece Dinner Set—12 5-inch plates, 12 6-inch plates, 12 7-inch plates, 12 4½-inch fruits, 12 2½-inch individual butters, 12 cups, 12 saucers, 1 covered butter (3 pieces), 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 covered dishes (3 pieces), 1 7-inch baker, 1 sauce boat, 1 pickle, 1 sugar bowl (2 pieces), 1 cream, 1 bowl.

Price, with Weekly Blade one year:
Plain White $6.00
Decorated 7.50

No. 4—English 112 piece dinner set—12 7-inch plates, 12 6-inch plates, 12 5-inch plates, 12 7-inch soup plates, 12 fruits, 12 individual butters, 12 cups, 12 saucers, 1 10-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 1 8-inch baker, 1 sugar, 1 butter dish, 1 pickle, 1 sauce boat, 1 slop bowl, 2 covered dishes.

Price, with Weekly Blade one year, $8.25.

Notice this set is imported English stone china. The decorations are under the glazing and the goods are fully guaranteed not to craze or crackle.

This set is made in three styles of decorations, viz: Peacock blue, sage green and claret brown. Be careful to state which color is desired.

This set cannot be purchased for less than $12. Our price only $8.25.

How to Get a Blade Dinner Set Free:

To those desiring to devote a few hours' work getting subscribers for the Weekly Blade, we make the following very liberal offer:

For a club of 10 yearly subscriptions at 50c each, we will give the sender of the club the No. 1 plain white dinner set absolutely free.

For a club of 15, No. 1 Decorated.
For a club of 15, No. 2 Plain White.
For a club of 15, No. 2 Decorated.
For a club of 22, No. 3 Plain White.
For a club of 22, No. 3 Decorated.
For a club of 25, No. 4 English.

A few hours' work among your friends will soon enable you to get one of these fine Dinner Sets free.

General Directions and Information.

Order by number, and specify white or decorated, as the case may be. The goods are carefully packed in a strong barrel, and shipped directly from the importer to the purchaser upon our order. We shall order every package shipped by freight unless otherwise instructed. The receiver pays transportation. From 25 cents to $1, according to distance, will cover freight cost of the Missouri river, while it may cost somewhat more to points tributary to the Rockies. We do not advise shipping by express. Always remit by postoffice money order. If you must send currency, have your letter registered. Address,

THE BLADE
Toledo, Ohio.

$19.85

The Blade's Bicycle for 1901

$19.85

SEND FOR DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULAR.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

CANAL TREATY.

Neutrality Will Be Insisted Upon and Will Be Conceded.

Washington, April 27.—The administration has succeeded at last in securing a collection of opinions from the leaders of the senate of all political parties upon which to base negotiations for a new isthmian canal treaty to replace the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. In other words, it is aware of the wishes of most of the senators and the only problem before the state department is to frame a treaty that will reflect those views, ensuring a two-thirds vote for ratification, and yet shall be acceptable to the British government. If, as reported from London, the sine qua non is a neutrality clause, officials here feel that success on this point seems within reach.

It is expected that two drafts of a treaty will be framed before long, probably the latter part of June, on Mr. Hay's return from the west. It is hardly expected, however, that final results will be attained before next autumn, after the return of Lord Pauncefote from London.

UNDULY ALARMED.

Washington, April 25.—The attention of Postmaster General Smith was called to a petition which is being circulated among the retail merchants of the middle west and south, addressed to the President, and urging him to do all in his power to prevent the establishment of a system of domestic parcels post. The petitioners declare such a system is about to be established by the postoffice department and that it would mean the business assassination of the retail merchants in small towns.

In commenting on the petition Postmaster General Smith said:

"The parties who are inciting or sending in these petitions seem to be unduly alarmed. As a matter of fact there is no necessity for a domestic parcels post for packages weighing four pounds or less. The laws and regulations now in force permit the mailing of merchandise in any part of the United States to any other part of this country or Canada or Mexico, at the rate of one cent an ounce on packages weighing up to and including four pounds. It also should be remembered that the postmaster general has no authority to establish a domestic parcels post system, permitting the carriage of any parcel in excess of that weight, as the limit of weight for parcels to be carried by mail is fixed by act of congress which cannot be amended or modified by the postmaster general."

BEET SUGAR REPORT.

Washington, April 29.—C. F. Saylor, of Iowa, the special agent in charge of the beet sugar investigation of the department of agriculture, is in Washington, and has submitted his report to Secretary Wilson. He says this report shows a very active tendency toward the institution of new beet sugar enterprises. Next autumn, he says, Michigan will have three new factories, and Ohio, Indiana, New York, Colorado, Utah, South and North Dakota and Illinois will install new factory enterprises, making thirteen throughout the United States now in contemplation. A conservative estimate, he says, is that there will be 42 beet sugar factories in operation throughout the United States by the end of next autumn. Everything indicates that the industry is thoroughly established throughout the country. Mr. Saylor says:

"Even in the incipiency of the industry, these factories have shown good profits. They have maintained themselves without apparent real contest with the sugar trust. The sections of the country that seem most adaptable to the industry are where conditions call for new resources, as in Michigan, where there has been a phenomenal increase in the last three years, largely due to the waning of the lumbering industry of that region. There will be fourteen factories there next season. California is the leading state in production, with eight factories, including the largest in the world."

IN PORTO RICO.

Washington, April 25.—Gov. Allen, of Porto Rico, has received the following cablegram from San Juan:

"Have just returned over the new road from Arecibo to Ponce. Returned by coach to capital over old military road. Favorably and strongly impressed with existing conditions at Adjuntas, formerly the center of poverty and distress, were evidences everywhere of decided improvement in the condition of the people. Saw no indications of actual want. In the sugar country, it is claimed by all that the crop will be the largest in the history of the islands, many planters predict that it will exceed 100,000 tons. At Ponce we found a widespread feeling of confidence in the immediate outlook and strong enthusiasm for American interests. Shipping people informed us that this activity commenced earlier in the season than usual and will probably continue longer.

"JAMES S. HARLAN,
"Attorney General.
"J. H. HOLLANDER,
"Treasurer."

APPOINTMENTS.

Washington, April 25.—The President to-day made the following appointments:

State—Gordon Paddock, of New York, to be secretary of the legation of the United States of America, at Seoul, Korea; Courtland K. Bolles, of Pennsylvania, to be consul of the United States of America at Kohl, Germany; Charles M. Dickinson to be agent of the United States of American at Sofia, Bulgaria.

Justice—Andrew M. J. Cochran, of Kentucky, to be United States district judge for the eastern district of Kentucky; James H. Tinsley, of Kentucky, to be attorney of the United States for the eastern district of Kentucky; S. C. Sharp, of Kentucky, to be marshal of the United States for the eastern district of Kentucky.

Washington, April 27.—The President to-day made the following appointments:

State—John W. Garrett, Pennsylvania, secretary of legation at The Hague, Netherlands.

Treasury—Herman Ellerman, collector of internal revenue, district of North and South Dakota; Alfred W. Brown, appraiser of merchandise, district of Boston and Charleston, Mass.

Justice—Earl M. Cranston, United States attorney, district of Colorado.

Interior—Henry Meldrum, surveyor general of Oregon; Harry D. Chamberlain, Indian agent, Crow Creek agency, South Dakota.

AUSTRIA AND MEXICO.

Washington, April 27.—A complete rapprochement between the governments of Austria and Mexico has been brought about, and, as a result, each country is about to send a minister to the other. This terminates an international estrangement dating from the days when young Maximilian of Austria sought to gain a foothold in Mexico, and lost his life in the adventure. Ever since then, Austria and Mexico have suspended all intercourse with each other, commercially and politically. Recently, however, friendly overtures have been made to terminate the estrangement, and have resulted in a satisfactory agreement between them, by which their old relations of friendship will be resumed. A bill has passed the Mexican congress, reciting the fact of a rapprochement and providing for a minister to Austria, at a salary of $15,000 annually. Austria will take similar action by sending a minister to Mexico, and this will close the long and historic separation.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

Radway's Relief is Absolutely Indispensible to every well-regulated household. It instantly relieves and quickly cures all Colds, Sore Throats, Influenza, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Headache, Toothache and Pains of All Kinds, Internally for Malarix and all Bowel Pains. Sold by all Druggists.

PRESIDENT STARTS

On His Long Journey Across the Continent.

Washington, April 29.—The train which is to carry President and Mrs. McKinley and their party on their long excursion across the continent and back made its start to-day precisely on schedule time, over the Southern road. Before 10 o'clock many people had congregated about the station, and when the President and Mrs. McKinley arrived, as they did about 10:20, the building was thronged, and many persons were congregated on the outside.

There was a cheer as the President's immediate party drove up to the station, and a general demonstration of affectionate regard as the head of the nation and his wife made their way through the crowd to the train. Mrs. McKinley leaned upon the arm of Dr. Rixey and both she and the President smiled in response to the greetings which met them at every step. They were accompanied to the train by numerous friends and by many persons distinguished in the affairs of the nation. The party included Secretary Gage, Secretary Root, Senator Hanna, Justice McKenna, Gen. Miles, Gen. Corbin, Gen. Sternberg, Secretary White, of the American embassy in London; Commissioner of Pensions Evans, Comptroller Dawes, General Bates, Assistant Postmaster General Shallenbarger, Congressman Livingston and many ladies of the cabinet circle.

Mrs. McKinley found the drawing room of the private coach which she and the President are to occupy beautifully decorated with roses and other flowers. She spoke gratefully of the thoughtful care of her friends, and seating herself beside a window facing the crowd, continued to smile and bow to acquaintances until the train moved out. The President took his position on the rear platform of the Olympia beside Secretary Hitchcock, hat in hand, a brilliant carnation in his buttonhole and a smile upon his face.

Just as the minute hand of the big clock in the station touched the 10:30 point, the train started upon its 10,000 mile journey. The crowd cheered enthusiastically and waved a good-bye. The demonstration was continued until the train left the environs of Washington, the crowd extending well to the city limits.

The train which carries the President and his party is one of the finest trains ever run over any American railway system. The start was made with Engineer Frank Larmon's hand on the throttle, W. W. Albright as conductor is in charge. Both are trusted employes of the Southern railway. Not a detail has been overlooked for the comfort and convenience of the guests. The Southern railway has charge of the train from Washington to New Orleans. At this point the party and train will be under the supervision of the Southern Pacific railroad.

The train, which is practically new, is made up of seven cars. The President's own car is the Olympia in the rear of the train. Next to the engine is the combination baggage and smoking car Atlantic, followed by the new dining car St. James, with a capacity of forty people. The next two are compartment cars, with seven state rooms and two drawing rooms each, the Omena and Guiana. The fifth and sixth cars, the Pelion and Charmion, are handsome 12-section drawing room cars. The President will retain the Olympia as far as San Francisco and there will be transferred to the Lucania, one of the finest private cars in existence in which he will make the return trip to the east. The Olympia is 70 feet long and has five private rooms and one sofa section and will accommodate nine persons. The Lucania has accommodations for 13 people. The President and Mrs. McKinley will have their meals served in their own car.

At Gen. Wheeler's Home.

Decatur, Ala., April 30.—All the steam whistles screamed a greeting at Decatur, the home of General Joseph Wheeler, as the President's train entered the city, and the fellow townsmen of the redoubtable old veteran gave the executive a particularly enthusiastic reception. The train passed under big American flags hung above the track.

THAT PEKIN GATE.

Washington, April 24.—Nothing is known here officially of the reported issue between Generals Chaffee and Count Von Waldersee as to the possession of the gate to the Forbidden City now held by the American troops. The officials are not able to offer any definite theory in explanation of Gen. Chaffee's action. On one hand it is suggested that this particular gate may give access to the place selected by Minister Rockhill and Mr. Squire for the future American legation. On the other hand, it is recalled that the American troops were the first to possess themselves of this gate, and Gen. Chafee may feel it to be his duty, when he relinquishes his position, to turn it over to the Chinese, its original possessors. No one here is aware of any special title in this property possessed by the Germans.

The fact that the matter has not yet been made the subject of an official report, inclines the officials here to the belief that it can be adjusted directly in Pekin, and may not assume serious proportions.

BLAINE'S WEDDING.

Washington, April 24.—The friends of Jimmy Blaine are beginning to wonder if he will, after all, be able to wed the beautiful Miss Martha Hichborn. The engagement of the two has been announced, and the wedding day set for June 4, but since the decision last week by the United States supreme court respecting divorce, there is doubt as to whether Jimmy can wed again as long as his divorced wife, Mrs. Dr. Bull, of New York lives. Mrs. Bull was Miss Nevins, of Pittsburg, before she married young Jim Blaine, and after several years of unhappy married life, she went to Fargo, S. D., and secured a divorce from Blaine, and soon after married Dr. Bull, of New York. Under the late decision of the supreme court that divorce is null and void outside of South Dakota. It is said that Mr. Blaine has consulted legal advice in regard to the matter, as the danack lies in the future, as he has issue by his first wife, and this child might attack the legitimacy of children of a second marriage contracted during the life of both parties to the otigiual contract.

HAWAIIAN LANDS SOLD.

Washington, April 30.—Governor Dole of Hawaii, has submitted to the interior department a list of certain lands in Hawaii, disposed of at Hilao, Hawaii by public auction, under advertisement dated August 1, 1900. Governor Dole says that about 200 lots of fifty acre each were sold at upset prices, ranging from $1 to $12 per acre, under certain specified conditions.

PORTO RICO

Laborers Will Not Leave. Better Conditions Now.

San Juan de Porto Rico, April 26.—It is not likely that more immigration agents will come here. Those already here had 2,000 natives recruited for Hawaii, and expected to ship 1,000 of them on the steamer California, Wednesday, but she sailed with only 544 emigrants. The agents announce that this is due to the opposition of the planters, who wish to retain the laborers available until harvesting begins, and that, therefore, any further attempts on a large scale to promote emigration will be useless.

The emigration of Porto Ricans to Ecuador has been put an end to on account of the widespread publication here of an official representative of the Jamaican authorities regarding the ill-treatment of Jamaican laborers in Ecuador.

Secretary Hunt says the alcaldes and other officials in the interior towns acknowledge that the times are much better than a year ago and that pessimists are gradually changing their opinion. The recent appropriation for road work will provide employment for hundreds of people and open up a wonderfully rich coffee country, which at present it is difficult to reach.

Mr. Hunt says there is no doubt that the entire opposition to Governor Allen proceeds from the disappointed party, which did not vote in the elections in 1900, and which is now so anti-American that its chief prohibits his followers to accept government appointments. Yet the richest planters and merchants in the island are enrolled in this party. Level-headed people see progress in the near future. The Federals here do not like to see the schoolhouses springing up. They are rich and do not worry about the education of their own children, but it annoys them to see the poorer classes being educated to their intellectual level.

MR. HANNA A SUFFERER FROM HEART FAILURE

Cleveland, O., April 30.—A Washington special to the Leader follows:

Senator Hanna had another serious attack of heart failure Saturday.

Although efforts were made to keep it quiet, it was learned to-day that while writing a letter he fell unconscious to the floor of his office in his home. His secretary, Mr. Dover, called for assistance and the senator was carried to his room.

His physician ordered him to remain in bed, but the senator rested quietly during the afternoon, and he felt so much improved that he occupied a box at the theater during the evening.

He is a personal friend of H. C. Barnabee, of the Bostonians, and it was that fact that induced him to make the effort to hear the opera. He spent the second act behind the scenes visiting with Barnabee.

Under orders from his physicians the senator is keeping quiet for a few days, and all visitors at his house are denied unless they come on important missions.

MEXICO AND SOUTH AMERICA.

Washington, April 27.—The Mexican government has taken steps to resume diplomatic communication with South American countries, the first move in that direction being the appointment of a Mexican minister to the Argentine republic. For many years there has been no diplomatic intercourse between Mexico and her sister republics on the southern continent, as there was little commerce between them and few political questions requiring diplomatic representation. Recently, however, Argentina made a friendly move by accrediting a minister both to Washington and to Mexico City, and Uruguay has taken similar action.

The selection of Mexico City as the place for holding the congress of American republics has had a further influence in inducing Mexico to extend her relations with southern countries. As a result of this sentiment, a minister to Argentina is now named, and one to Uruguay probably will be appointed before long. It is expected that this will develop speedily into an extension of diplomatic relations between Mexico and all of the South American countries.

AN IMPORTANT RULING.

Washington, April 27.—The comptroller of the treasury has decided that postal money orders are payable only by postmasters upon whom they are drawn and to whom notice of the issue thereof has been sent. It has been the practice heretofore to cash money orders at postoffices other than those on which they are drawn and for the postmasters cashing such orders to turn them into the postoffice department as vouchers.

TO FLOAT THE MAINE.

Chicago, April 27.—Newton F. Chamberlain, who is engaged in raising the wreck of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor, and who has just returned from Cuba on a short business trip, says:

"We expect to have the Maine afloat and ready for business again some time next fall. She was not so badly damaged when she was sunk as has been generally supposed, and repairs can easily be made.

"We find," continued Mr. Chamberlain, "that the Maine has not sunk one inch deeper since I made an examination of her two years ago. She lies perfectly level and it is just 57 feet and 6 inches to solid bottom from both bow and stern. In order to float the vessel, we shall first build a small dam all around it and pump out the water. When the water has all been removed from the wreck, the hole in her bow will be repaired. Then, when the water is turned in again, she will rise to the surface, and will be towed to the Havana docks for a complete overhauling."

MRS. NATION.

Kansas City, April 29.—Mrs. Carrie Nation was in this city several hours last night, on her way to Lewisburg, Kan., to attend the funeral of her brother, Charles Moore. She was released from the Wichita jail on her own recognizance, with the understanding that she is to return to the jail as soon as the funeral ceremony is over. Her special mission here last night was to thank Dr. T. P. Haley, of the Springfield Avenue Christian church, for a recent sermon in which he vigorously denounced the police officials of this city for their treatment of her.

Although the police judge told Mrs. Nation, when he pronounced sentence upon her, that the fine of $500 against her would be enforced upon her return to the city, she seemed to have no fear of arrest last night.

Wichita, Kan., April 29.—It is said the cases against Mrs. Carrie Nation will be dropped. She was permitted to leave jail here yesterday on her own recognizance, to attend the funeral of her brother at Louisburg, Kan., after having spent a week in jail with three other young women awaiting trial, which was to have come up next week. Now, it is generally believed, the cases will be dropped.

Bold Robbery.

Anaconda, Mont., April 26.—Two men secured $10,000 in gold early to-day in the most audacious robbery ever known. During the early morning hours they forced the main door of the "Alaska" saloon, carried out the 300-pound safe, placed it in an express wagon and drove outside the city limits. After leisurely breaking open the safe and securing its contents, they headed the horse back to the city and escaped.

PROCLAMATION TO WEAK MEN

Charity, the Noblest Impulse of Man, Exemplified by a Well Known Missourian.

SENT FREE TO MEN.

W. S. Harter, an honored and influential citizen of Nevada, Mo., makes a statement and an over-generous offer that comes in the shape of a proclamation of health to all afflicted with lost vitality and its kindred ailments. His case was a most pitiable one, nightly emissions so draining and his constitution was weakened to such a degree that it was impossible for him to perform his duties. He spent hundreds of dollars for remedies and to specialists, but could not regain his vitality or check the awful nightly emissions. One day a brother lodge member called his attention to a remedy, in fact implored Mr. Harter to take the remedy for his affliction; he did so, and in one month's time was entirely cured, his constitution rejuvenated and his vitality regained. To-day he is a man in every sense of the word, strong, healthy. Mr. Harter is not what one would call an immensely rich man, but his gratitude for this marvelous remedy is so great that he intends making his life's labor that of putting this remedy in the hands of all those afflicted as he was. Mr. Harter being a very conscientious man, thought before he offered the remedy may not prove in every case so wonderfully beneficial as it did in his. For this reason he gave fifty sufferers the treatment, and in every instance the same wonderful results were experienced as was in his case; so he now says he will send every sufferer of this death-dealing disease, Lost Manhood, and its kindred ailments, absolutely free the means which directed him to health and contentment. Mr. Harter is a resident of Nevada, Mo., where he can be seen at his home. Those in need of such a God-send should not delay, but write him at once. Do not put off reading this, but write him to-day, as he means just what he says. The following is a partial list of those who have been cured: Mr. Frank Hall, Nevada, Mo., Rural Route No. 3, in which he says: "I was troubled with nightly emissions, which had run me down in health and strength terribly. I had become despondent, and felt that life was a burden. I had given up hope of ever being cured, when I received your remedy. I used it according to your directions, and am pleased to say that it cured me sound and well. I am a married man, and the happiness it has brought to my home cannot be told in words. I am glad to recommend your remedy to any man who is afflicted as I was." Mr. Hall is well known in Nevada, and his statement can be relied upon. Mr. Harter has also cured Mr. Wm. Stephens, Nevada, Mo., Rural Route No. 3, who says: "I was a victim of nightly emissions, which had weakened me to such an extent that I was unable to do anything. I had become despondent, and life was a burden to me. I had given up hope of ever being cured, when I received your remedy. I used it according to your directions, and am pleased to say that it cured me sound and well. I am a married man, and the happiness it has brought to my home cannot be told in words. I am glad to recommend your remedy to any man who is afflicted as I was." Mr. Stephens is well known in Nevada, and his statement can be relied upon. Mr. Harter has also cured Mr. Wm. Stephens, Nevada, Mo., Rural Route No. 3, who says: "I was a victim of nightly emissions, which had run me down in health and strength terribly